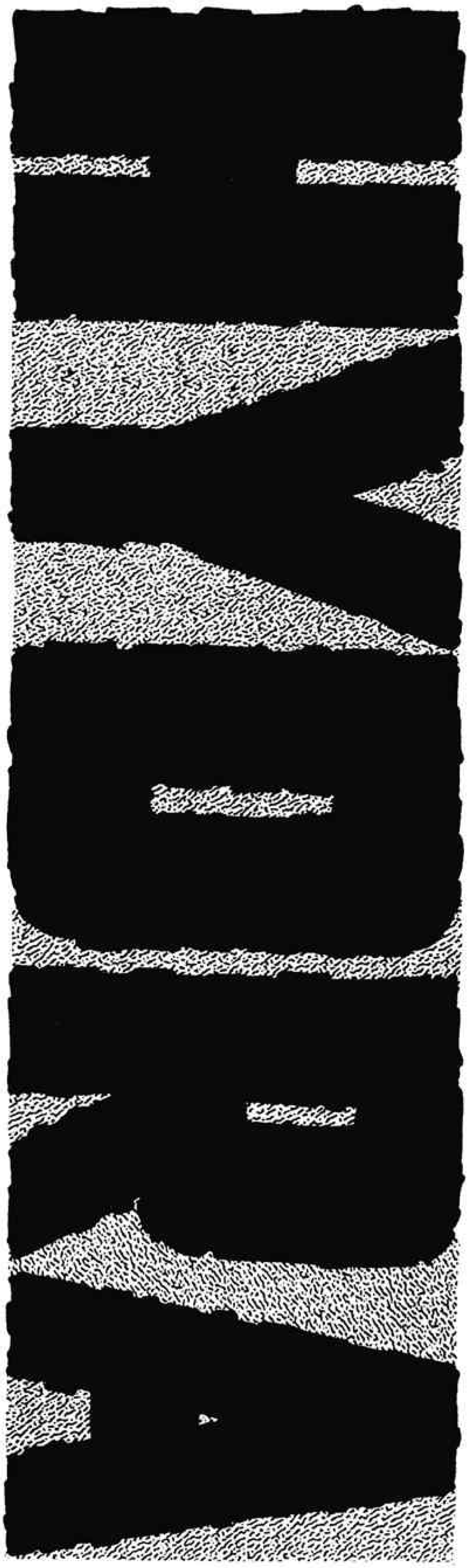
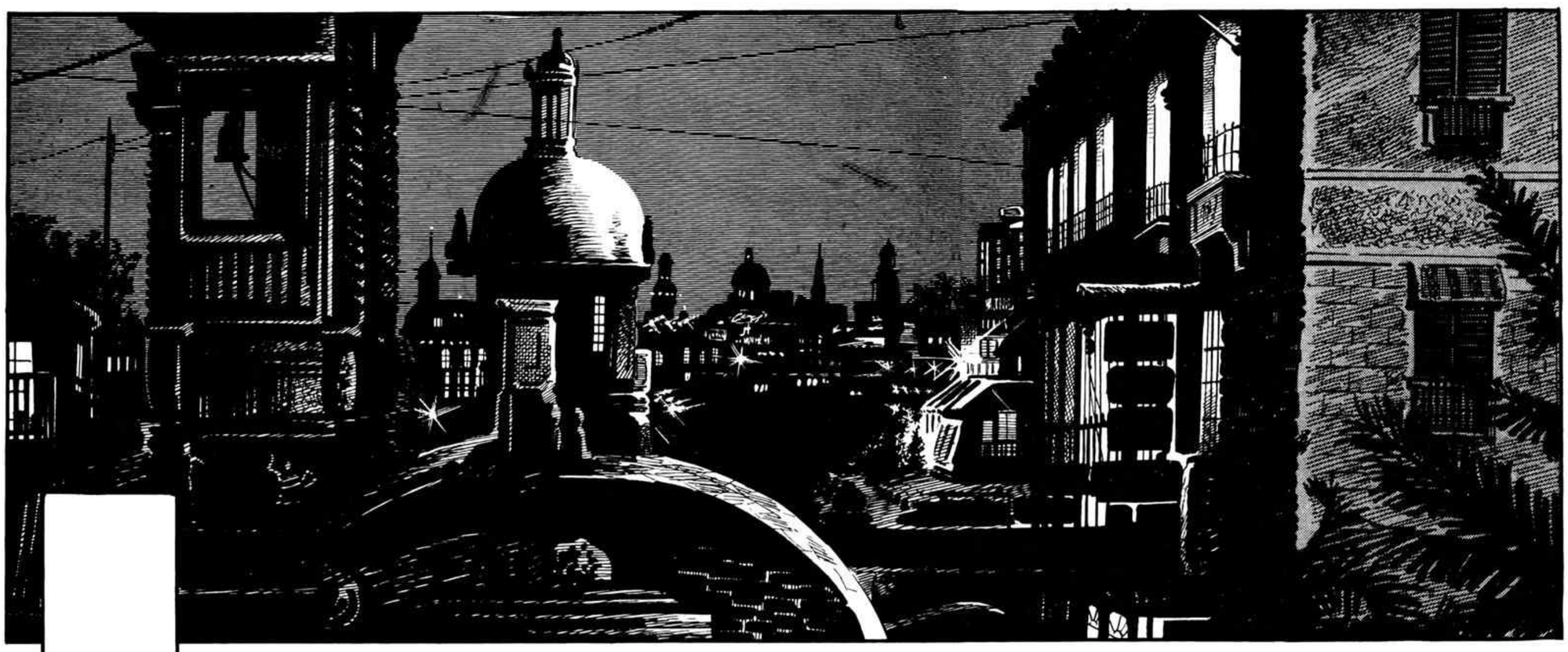
From him Deianira
learned about Iole,
and fearing that
Herakles might love
that damsel more than
herself, she supposed
that the spilt blood
of Nessus was in
truth a love-charm,
and with it she
smeared the tunic.
So Herakles put it on
and proceeded to
offer sacrifice. But
no sooner was the
tunic warmed than the
poison of the hydra
began to corrode
his skin.

-**Apollodorus**,
Bibliotheca





PART 1

WANNA BUY ME?

AND WHO YOU WORKIN' FOR...?

.....

OOOOOOO...

YOU WORKIN' TONIGHT ?

HOLA! CHICA VIRGEN!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?

HUH ?

WHAK

HUH?

.....

HUH? ANSWER ME!

YOU HERE TO FUCK, OR TO FUCK AROUND?

MMPH

...THIS ALL I GOT.

.....

Flick

FWMP

HOW ABOUT WE STOP *ASKIN'* YOU STUFF THEN, AND JUST GO CHECK OUT THE INSIDES, EH? ONLY THING, IS, SORRY...

OKAY, OKAY, SO YOU REALLY WANNA PLAY *PUTA*, EH? OKAY.

Chi gam

KATHYMP

!

?

WHOK

AHK!

TAKE HER!

CHIK

CHIK

APRETADA! KEEP PLAYIN' HARD TO GET!

WE KNOW WHICH ONE IT WAS NOW... LET'S JUST KEEP WATCHING.

HOLD IT.

!!

WHSSH

YOU ...

SHOOK

SHOOK

YAAA!

FW

RIGHT, BITCH!
AH... SHIT!

MPT

WHSSSH

DIE!

...HEY, WANNA BUY ME?

STRAIGHT OR HIGH?

WANNA *BUY* ME !?

klak klak klak

.....

NEITHER.. CUT DOWN LOW.

tmp tmp

WHAT THE... !?

WHOA

WHSSH

OKAY--

TH

KR NCH

AW P

UH...

tmp

KK-K

KRA

hahh hahh

THEY LIKE THEIR KNIVES TOO MUCH DOWN HERE...

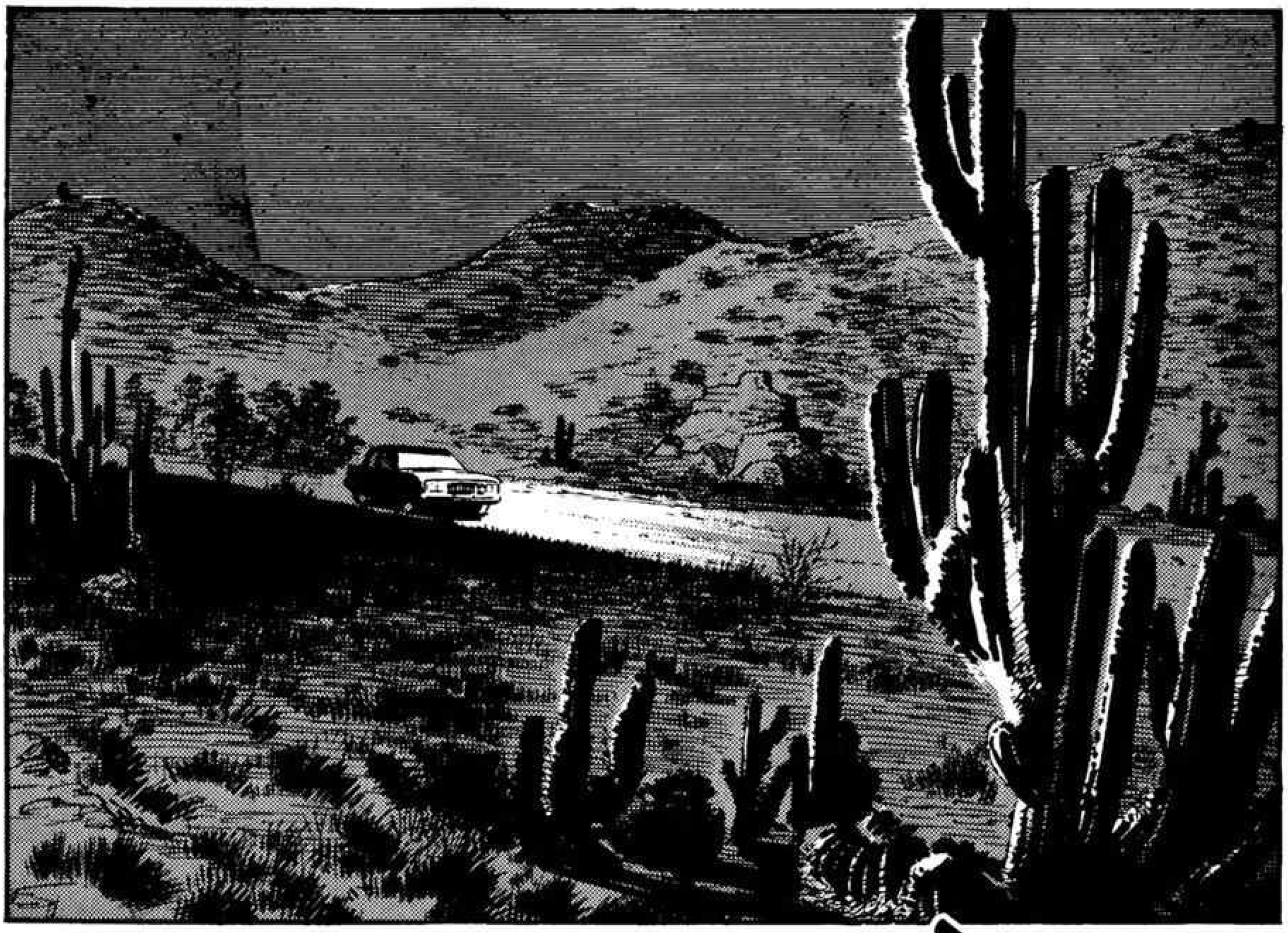
SOME MUSCLE.

tch!

LET'S GO, MARCEL.

BETTER WE SAW THIS SORRY SCENE. WE CAN TELL *LA PATRIARCHE* WE NEED BETTER ENFORCERS.

PART 2 BRUSHING OFF SPARKS



...OR BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T TRUST THAT I WAS YOUR CONTACT?

HEY, I'M DYING TO ASK YOU. DID YOU LEAVE IT UP TO *ME* BACK THERE BECAUSE YOU TRUSTED MY SKILL...

...WHATEVER WAY THE CLIENT WANTS TO SET IT UP, THAT'S THEIR BUSINESS. AND IF I WALK UP AND SEE THEY'VE CAUGHT ON FIRE, THAT'S THEIR BUSINESS, TOO.

.....

MAYBE THEY'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT ME, AND FOCUS ON THE BIG CHINESE PIMP WHO KNEW KUNG FU.

I DON'T KNOW IF THOSE GUYS ARE EVEN GOING TO REMEMBER THAT COUNTERSIGN... GETTING YOUR BALLS AND FACE BROKEN BY A *TACONERA* TENDS TO CLOUD THE MEMORY.

.....

AS LONG AS THE SPARKS STAY OFF MY JACKET.

...HOW LONG WERE YOU PLANNING ON TOWING THAT CAR...?

HUH !?

.....

TRY THE GAS PEDAL.

YES, THEY ARE.

...THEY'RE FOLLOWING US...!?

VRRRRRMMMM

SKKRR

WHUZZZZZZ

VRRRRMMMM

SPEED UP.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SEE THAT?

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE RIGHT.

I WOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT THEY HAD ANY BACKUP...

.....

RRRRRRRRRR!!

THESE *ROADS* WILL KILL US FIRST AT THIS SPEED...

WELL, THEN, GET OFF-ROAD... AND SLOW DOWN SO THEY CAN CATCH US.

SKKKRRRRCH

.....

READY TO GET BURNED ...?

SKKKKRRR

RRRRRRRRR

WH--

BLAMMMMMMMM

KR EEEEEE

SKK RRRRRR

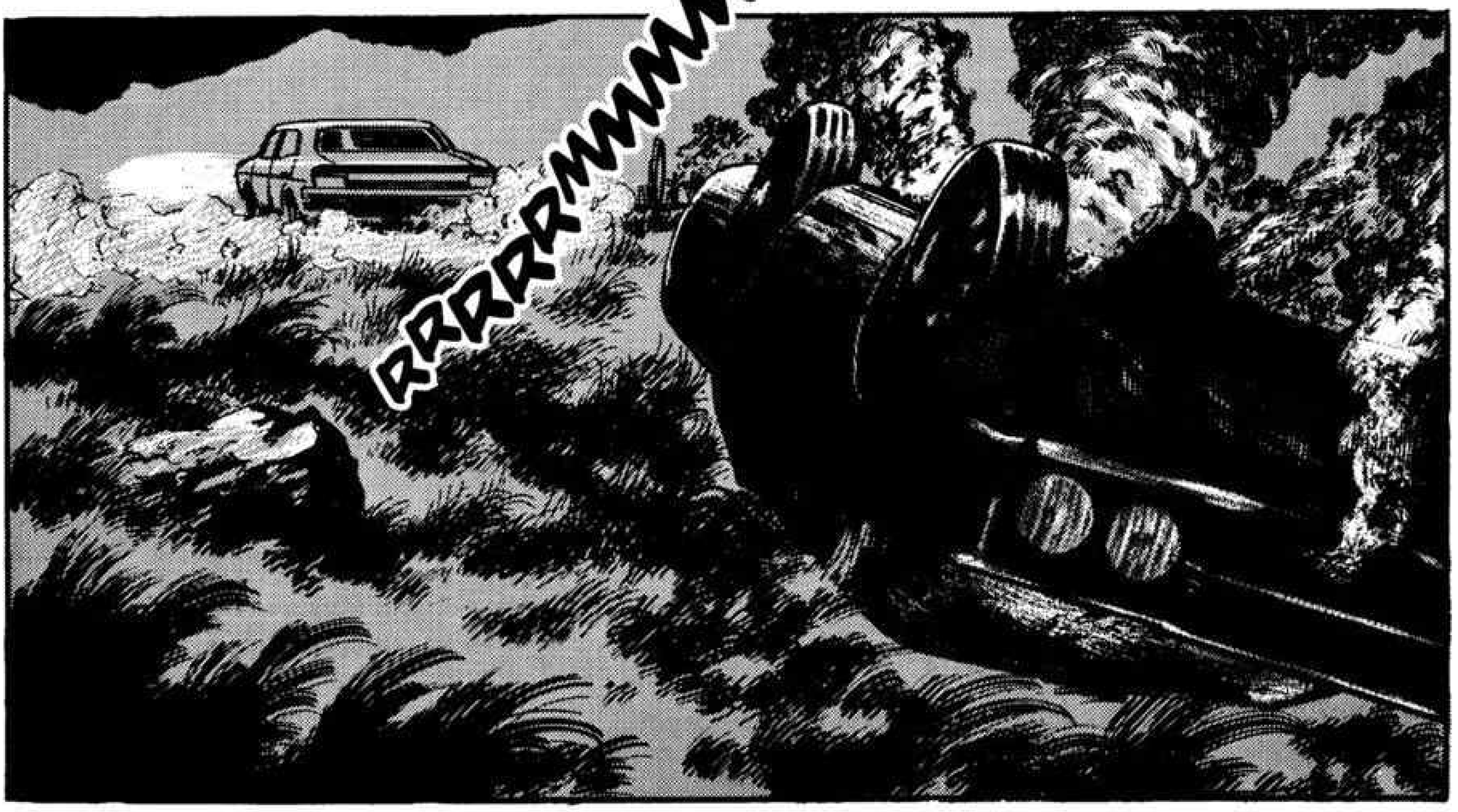
THMP FM

keek keek keek

.....

BACK ON THE ROAD NOW.

FM



PART 3 THE NAME IS "DOCTOR Z"

SIR!

ALL RIGHT, COME ON!

HELP ME, SIR!

I'M SICK, SIR!

SIR! SIR!

.....

HIS NAME IS JODY THOMAS. HE WAS AGENT GARLAND'S PREDECESSOR ON THIS CASE... THEN HE GOT CAUGHT.

USUALLY THEY'RE JUST TORTURED AND KILLED, BUT AS YOU CAN SEE...THEY DIDN'T LEAVE A MARK ON HIM.

.....

CAN WE GET BACK TO THE JOB ...?

klik

.....

THAT'S WHERE I COME IN, AS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR INTELLIGENCE.

IN PARTICULAR, WE HAVE BEEN TASKED WITH GATHERING DATA ON INTERNATIONAL SMUGGLING.

...THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS ESTABLISHED THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY LAST YEAR TO COORDINATE THE WIDELY SCATTERED FEDERAL ANTI-NARCOTICS EFFORTS.

They are the **patriarches** or **padrones**-- the leaders of the **Union Corse.**

Among the French of Corsican ancestry, there are those men who carry a medallion, which marks them as **un vrai monsieur**, a man of honor.

He promptly took the opportunity to form a new power base--this time not with his own Italian mafia, but with the gangs in Corsica, culturally related to Italy.

Shortly after the Second World War, the United States deported "Lucky" Luciano back to Sicily.

By 1969, 90% of the heroin that reached the U.S., reached it through the Corsicans.

The purpose of this network was straight-forward-- to create the most powerful international heroin trafficking ring the world had yet seen.

IT GOES FROM LEBANON TO THE PORT OF MAR-SEILLES.

AS A FORMER PROTECTORATE, IT RETAINS STRONG TIES TO FRANCE.

THE ROUTE STARTS IN TURKEY. THEY HAVE A LARGE OPIUM CULTIVATION INDUSTRY PRODUCING MORPHINE BASE FOR MEDICINE. THE EXCESS IS BOUGHT BY TRAFFICKERS WHO MOVE IT TO LEBANON.

...AND, 85% PURE, IT IS SMUGGLED INTO VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA.

IN MARSEILLES, THE MORPHINE BASE IS REFINED BY A GROUP OF CORSICAN-CONTROLLED DRUG LABS...

.....

THIS HAS HARDLY EVEN SLOWED THE CORSICANS DOWN. INSTEAD THEY'VE SHIFTED THEIR SOURCES TO VIETNAM AND LAOS, WHERE, AGAIN, THE FRENCH COLONIAL LEGACY PROVIDES THEIR CONNECTIONS.

IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS GOTTEN TURKEY TO ELIMINATE MUCH OF ITS SURPLUS OPIUM CROP.

THE FINISH LINE IS DUE NORTH... THE U.S.-MEXICO BORDER.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK SO...?

AND THEY HAVE ONE WHO'S THE KEY TO THEIR FUTURE.

MEXICO HAS A HEROIN INDUSTRY OF ITS OWN, WITH MUCH SHORTER LINES OF TRANSIT. WHAT KEEPS THE CORSICANS COMPETITIVE IS THEIR PURITY...THEY HAVE THE BETTER CHEMISTS.

...NOW HE *IS* THE EVIDENCE.

I SENT AGENT THOMAS TO MARSEILLES, TO GET THE DATA TO PROVE IT'S HAPPENING. BUT HE BROUGHT BACK NO EVIDENCE ...

PHARMACEUTICAL-GRADE RESEARCH FROM THUGS AND GANGSTERS.

WHAT IS HEROIN, MR. TOGO...? FUNDAMENTALLY, IT'S A CHEMICAL. IT'S ITS HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR; A BRITISH CHEMIST COOKED UP THE FIRST BATCH ON HIS STOVETOP IN 1874. SOONER OR LATER SOMEONE WOULD MOVE ON--BEYOND MERELY TRYING TO PURIFY IT, TOWARDS *IMPROVING* ON IT.

.....

THEY...MAIMED THOMAS'S MIND WITH...SOMETHING. WE GOT A BLOOD SAMPLE OUT OF HIM... TRACES OF THINGS WE'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE. WHAT GOOD IS BURNING A DRUG CROP, IF A DOZEN NEW ONES COME OUT A LAB TO TAKE ITS PLACE?

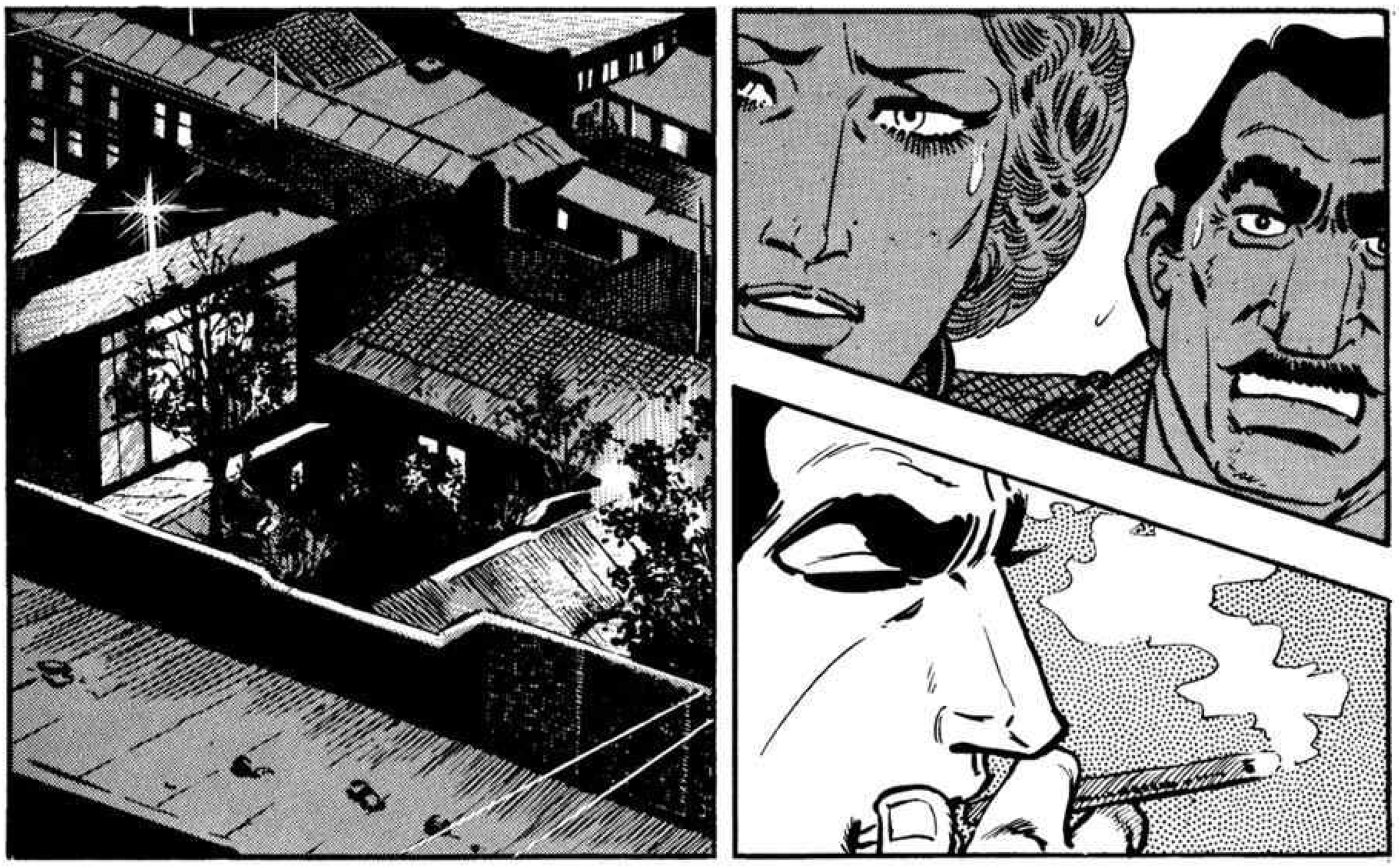
.....

..."DOCTOR Z."

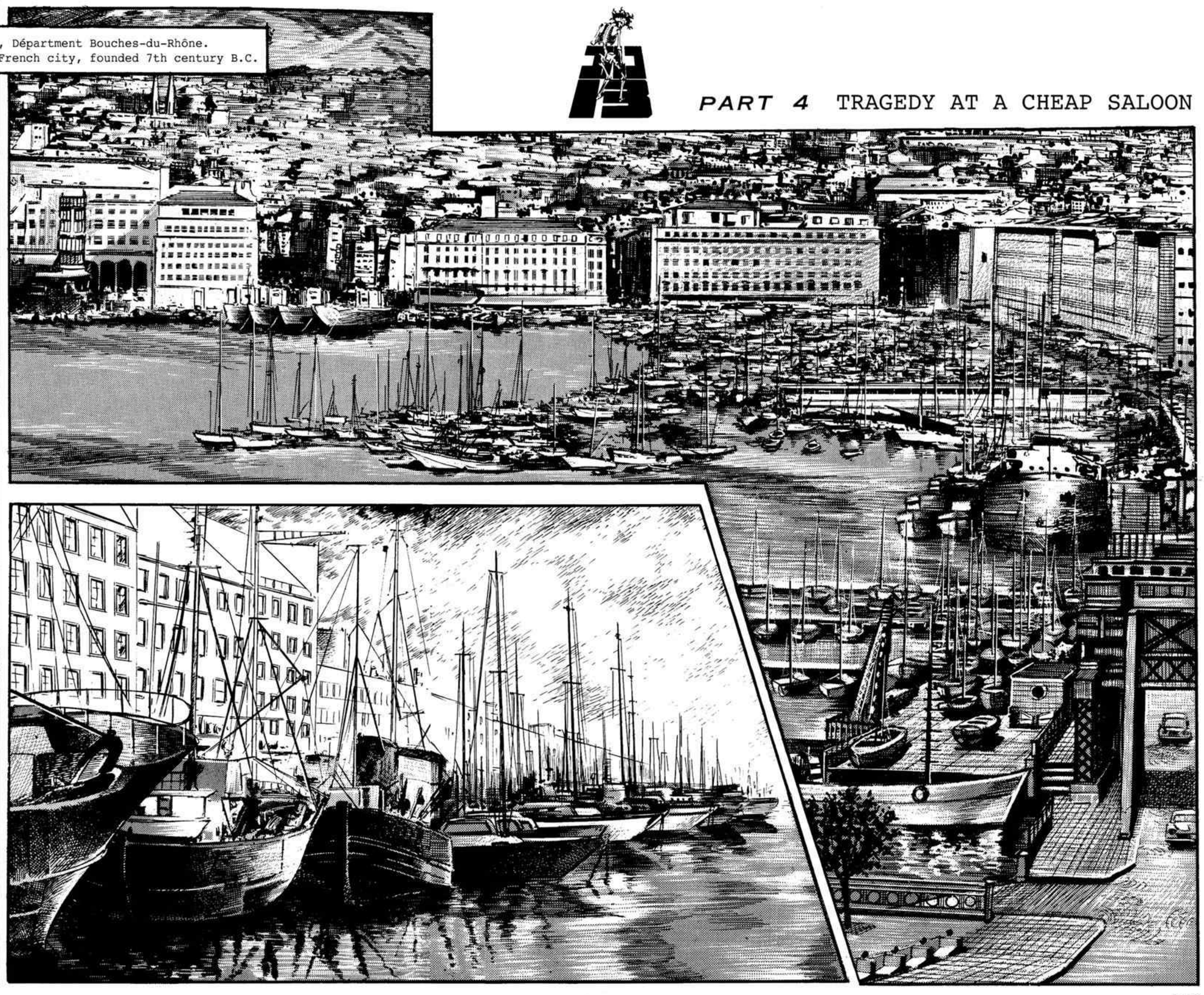
WE BELIEVE THE CORSICANS HAVE A MASTER CHEMIST... A MAN IN HIS SIXTIES, WORKING SOMEWHERE IN BOUCHES-DU-RHÔNE. WE KNOW THAT... AND A CODE NAME...

OFFICIALLY, WE ARE HIRING YOU AS AN UNATTACHED INVESTIGATOR... IDENTITY WITHHELD.
I ASKED THE DIRECTOR TO TAKE ANOTHER APPROACH.
.....
IT COST FIVE MORE AGENTS' LIVES TO EVEN LEARN THAT MUCH.

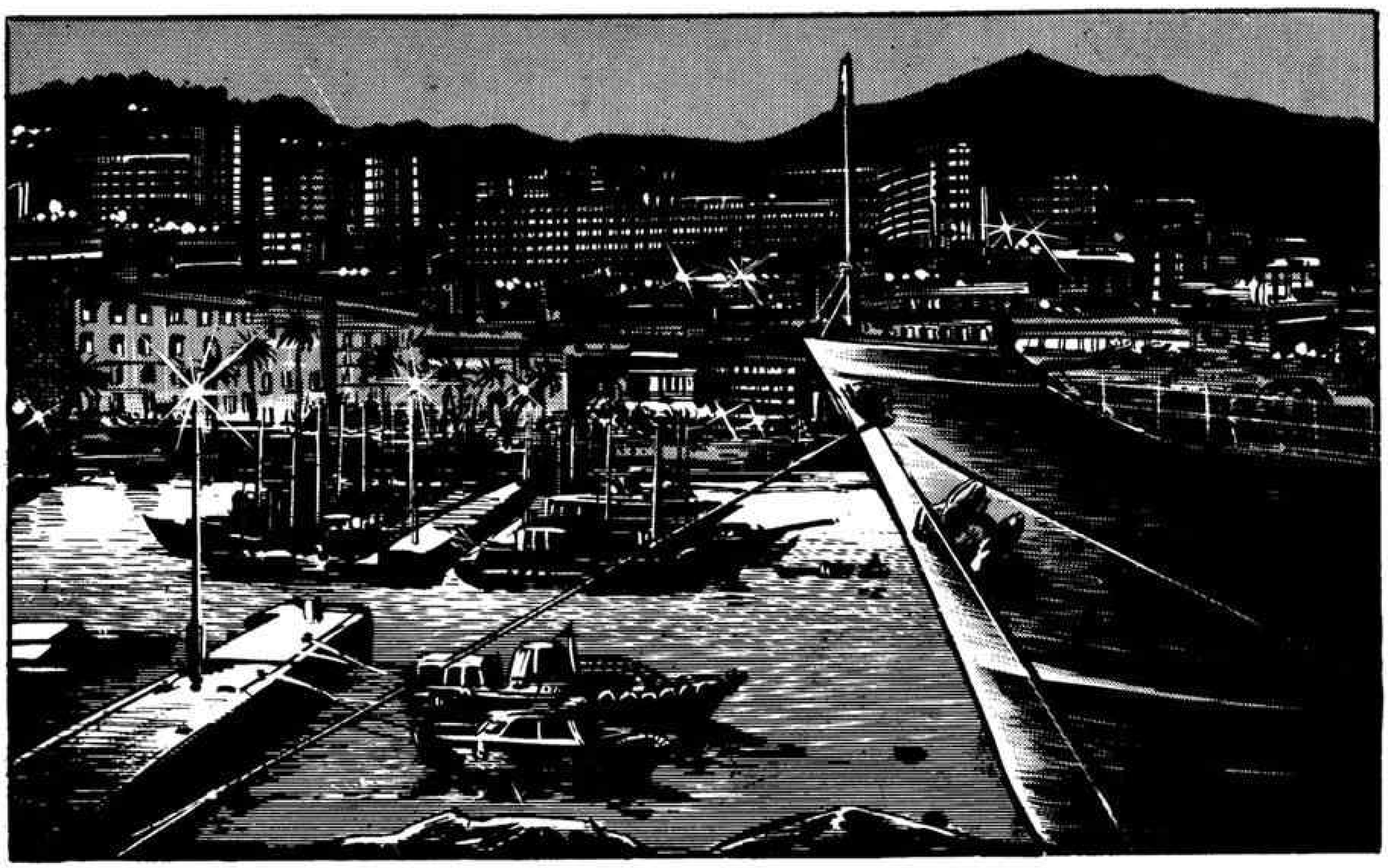
.....
FIND HIM AND KILL HIM.
UNOFFICIALLY, I WANT YOU TO FIND DOCTOR Z.



Marseilles (Marseille), Département Bouches-du-Rhône.
Second largest, and oldest French city, founded 7th century B.C.



PART 4 TRAGEDY AT A CHEAP SALOON



BAR
La Casa

BUT...YOU ARE NO CORSICAN, SIGNORU.

A ME UNA STREGA.
CHI VULETE BEIE?

.....

LÉON IS PASSING THROUGH MARSEILLES ON HIS WAY TO SAIGON... I WISHED TO SHOW HIM OUR HOSPITALITY.

WE ARE INFORMED, MADAME, THAT HE HAS BEEN OF THE GREATEST ASSISTANCE IN OUR BUSINESS WITH ASIA.

THIS GENTLEMAN WAS RECOMMENDED TO US THROUGH OUR AFFILIATES IN MONTRÉAL.

LÉON MAGNANI.

LÉON...?

YOU'RE MIXED ...?

WHAM

OUI, MA MÈRE EST VIET.

.....

WHAT ARE THEY ...?

EH!?

VICTOR! WHAT HAPPENED ?

TH... THE C- COPS...

THMP

V- VICTOR !

THIS IS A RAID!

HOLD IT!

BUT...

.....

DON'T YOU...

OFFICER? WHAT IS THE PROBLEM? SURELY, WE HAVE AN UNDER-STANDING...

SHUT IT! YOU, STAND STILL.

YOU FOUR MEN! RAISE YOUR HANDS AND STAND AGAINST THE WALL! QUICKLY, NOW!

BON.

WhShh

BRRRRPPPPP

EEEYA!

NO!

WHMP

KTHMP

.....

...WHO SENT YOU?

Y-YOU'RE NOT THE POLICE...

chak

BLAM

WHAT !?

AVIGNON... IT'S *AVIGNON*, ISN'T IT?

YOU *MUST* KNOW THAT!

LISTEN...I HEARD THAT YOU WANT SOME OF OUR BUSINESS...BUT WHEN THE BOSS HEARS OF THIS, IT WILL BE ALL-OUT *WAR!*

WHEN THE *BOSS* HEARS, YES?

THE PROPRIETOR, HERE AT THE BELLACOSCIA... AND, WHEN NOT TENDING BAR, BOSS OF THE BOUCHES-DU-RHÔNE ?

THERE IS NO NEED FOR MODESTY, MADAME. YOU *ARE* SANDRINE SALVI, ARE YOU NOT?

W-WE AREN'T IMPORTANT... WHY DO YOU...

.....

...IT WILL BE A SHAME TO BREAK THOSE BOTTLES.

YOU BAS--

CHAK

MOVE TO THE WALL!

WHOOSH

THMP

KRAK

BR RR DD P

HKK!

BLAM

spakk

spakk

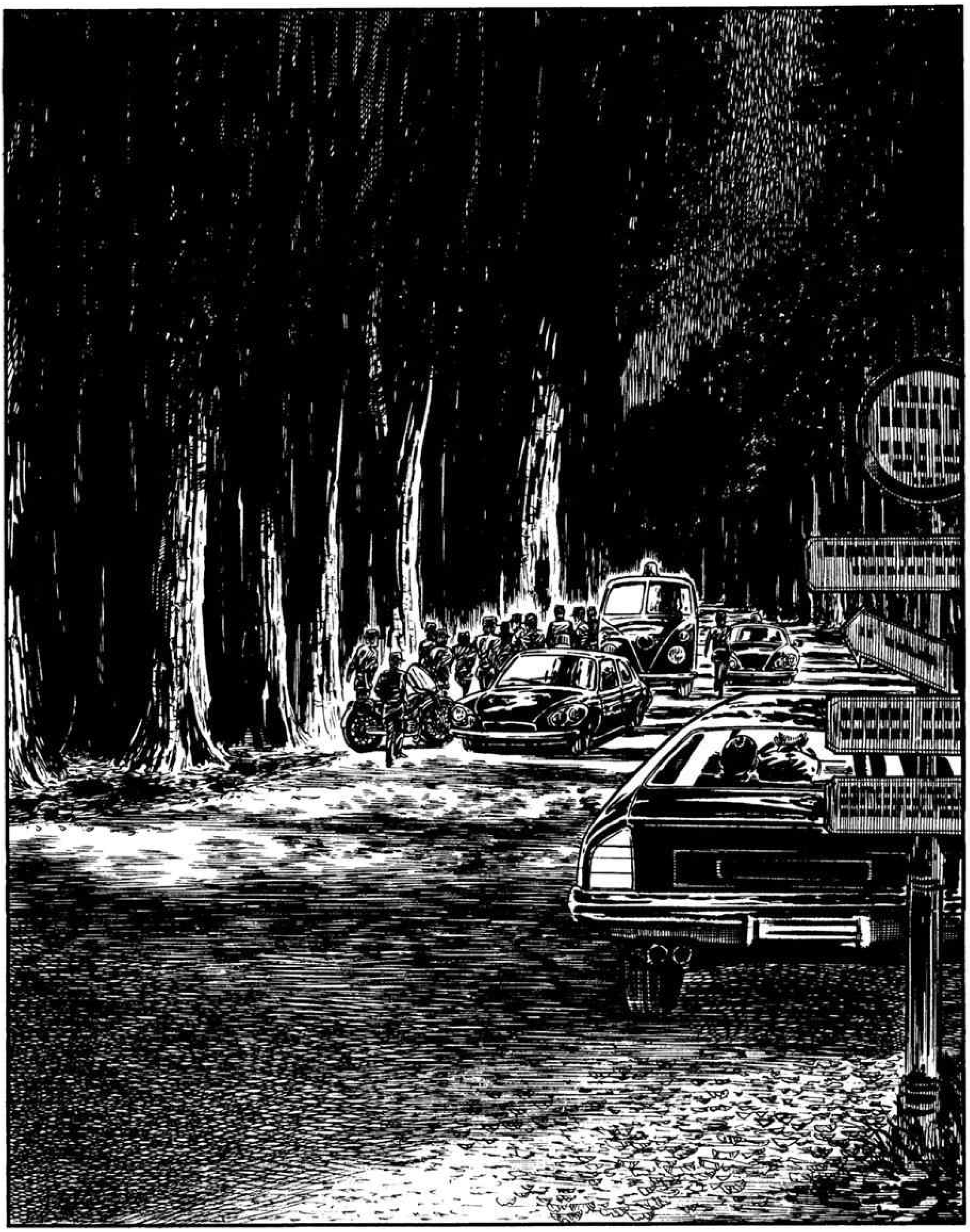
spakk

BLAM

BLAM

MDF
ALL TO THE HEAD !
MALUDIT !
... THANK YOU.
L- LÉON ...

PART 5 THE TATTOO ON THE CORPSE



IT CAUGHT FIRE...
PRETTY HORRIBLE... SOME CANADIAN TOURIST IN A RENTAL CAR, THEY SAID...CAN'T EVEN RECOGNIZE HIS FACE ANY-MORE.
WHAT'S THE HOLD-UP?

!?

FWMP

KING AND QUEEN OF SPADES... THREE NINES, I THINK.

THE ARM-- CAN YOU MAKE IT OUT?

EH? WHAT IS IT?

THAT'S LÉON MAGNANI!

WHAT?

THE GUY FROM MONTRÉAL...? HE'S AT THE BELLACOSCIA!

YOU'RE *SURE?*

THAT'S *HIM*, ALL RIGHT!

I *SERVED* WITH LÉON IN ALGIERS! ONE NIGHT IN A GAME, HE CLEANED US ALL OUT WITH THAT HAND...HE GOT THE TAT, USED TO FLASH IT JUST TO PISS US OFF!

WHO SHOWED UP?
LOOK, JEAN CALLED ME FROM THE BAR! HE SAID HE SHOWED UP, RIGHT ON TIME!
CERTAIN.

WE'RE GOING BACK TO TOWN...I DON'T KNOW WHO THAT GUY IS, BUT WE'VE GOT TO FIND OUT QUICK!
SHIT!
LOOK, WHATEVER IT IS, WE'RE NOT GOING TO FIGURE IT OUT IN THE WOODS...I'M TELLING YOU, JEAN DOESN'T MAKE THOSE KIND OF MISTAKES!
SKKKRRRRPPPP
VVVRRRRRNNNN

PART 6 THUNDER

DO YOU WAIT AGAIN FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT ...?

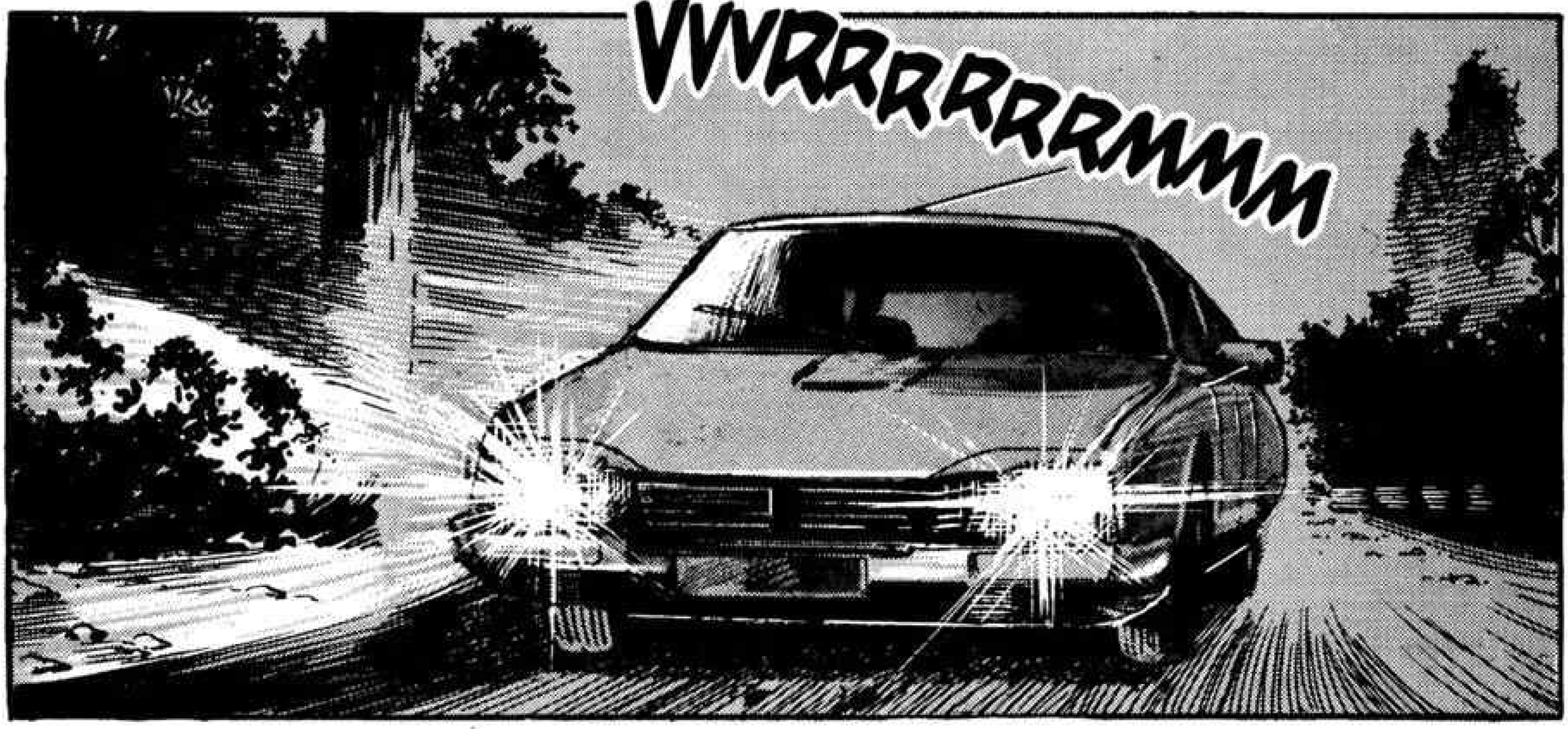
.....

RRMMBBBBBBBLLL SHASHH

Oh!

WMP

PART 7 LIGHTNING



BUT WHERE ARE THE *BODIES* ?

BLOOD... BULLET HOLES... A GODDAMNED MASSACRE!

WHAT DO YOU THINK *NOW*?

OR DID THEY *KIDNAP* HER?

IF MADAME SALVI SURVIVED, SHE MIGHT BE DISPOSING OF THE EVIDENCE...THIS KIND OF THING IS TOO BIG TO SIMPLY BUY THE COPS OFF.

WAS HE A JUDAS GOAT FOR SOME RIVAL FACTION ...?

RRRRMMMMMM

.....

IF WE'RE GOING TO COUNTERATTACK, WE NEED ANSWERS. BE SHARP TONIGHT, *MON CHER*-- WE'LL TRY TO TAKE THE BASTARD ALIVE.

SHAAASHH SHAAAASHH

BBBB
RRRR
AH.
YES?

RIGHT...

YEAH...

A WOMAN.

.....

LÉON... IT'S FOR YOU ...?

I ALREADY TOLD YOU... IT'S OVER BETWEEN US...

.....

YOU ARE A HARD MAN ...

KLAK

ENOUGH.

.....

HM?

BUT YOU ARE ALSO A BAD MAN...THEY'RE NOT THE SAME THING, ARE THEY?

ESPECIALLY AN OLD SYNDICATE GIRLFRIEND ...

I THINK YOU'RE JOKING, MADAME...WITH THE CLEAN-UP AT THE BAR...

I HAD NO TIME TO CALL ANY-ONE...

.....

YOU LET HER KNOW THE NUMBER HERE...IS THAT NOT CRUEL?

fsshh

.....

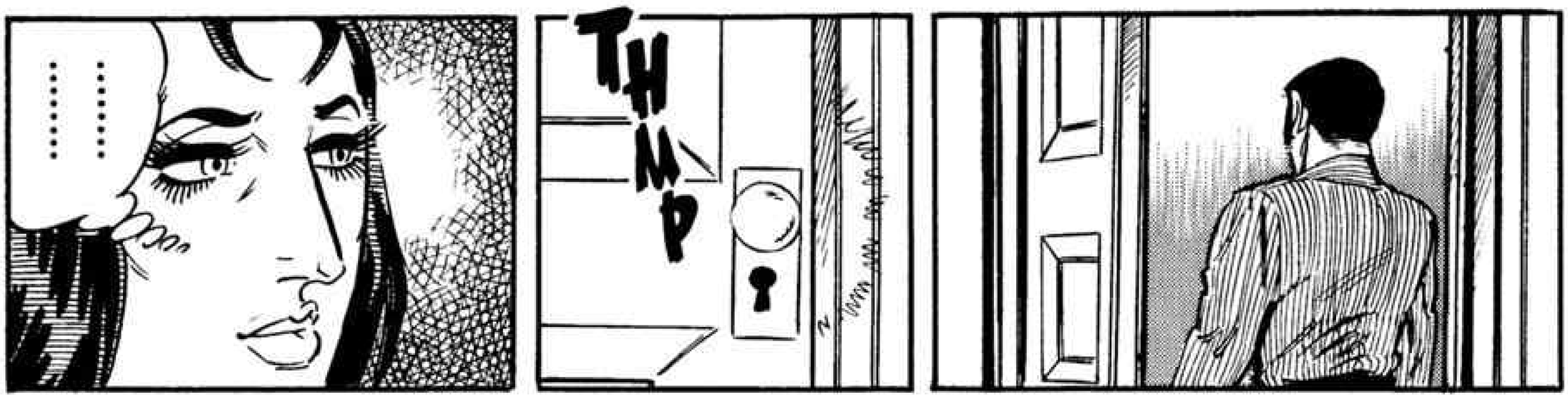
...WHO'S STALKING ME LIKE AN ASSASSIN.

WHY CAN'T YOU JUST SHARE MY BED?

MADAME LA PATRIARCHE... I'M TOO LOW-RANKING.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

BACK TO MY ROOM..



RRRR

EH?

WAIT...

LET'S PARK HERE... GO IN ON FOOT...

RRRRRRMMMMBBBBBBL

KRAK

SKKKRCH

MADAME SAID YOU WOULD BE COMING FOR BACKUP.

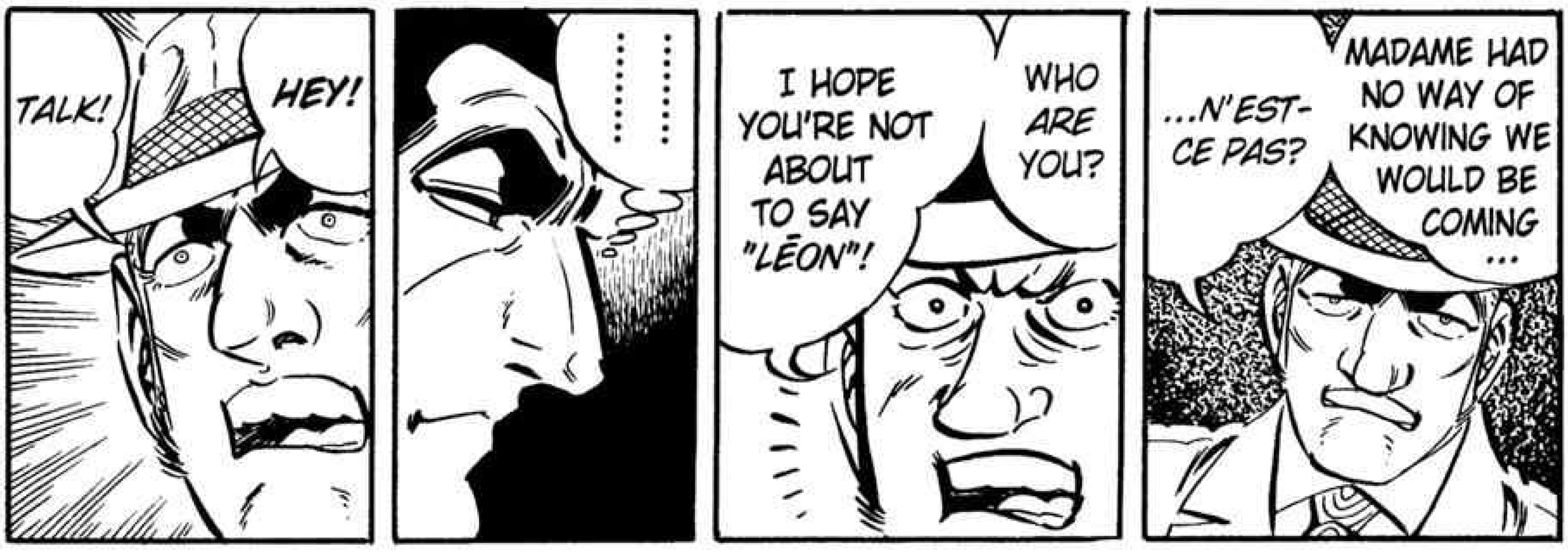
GEORGES? VALENTIN?

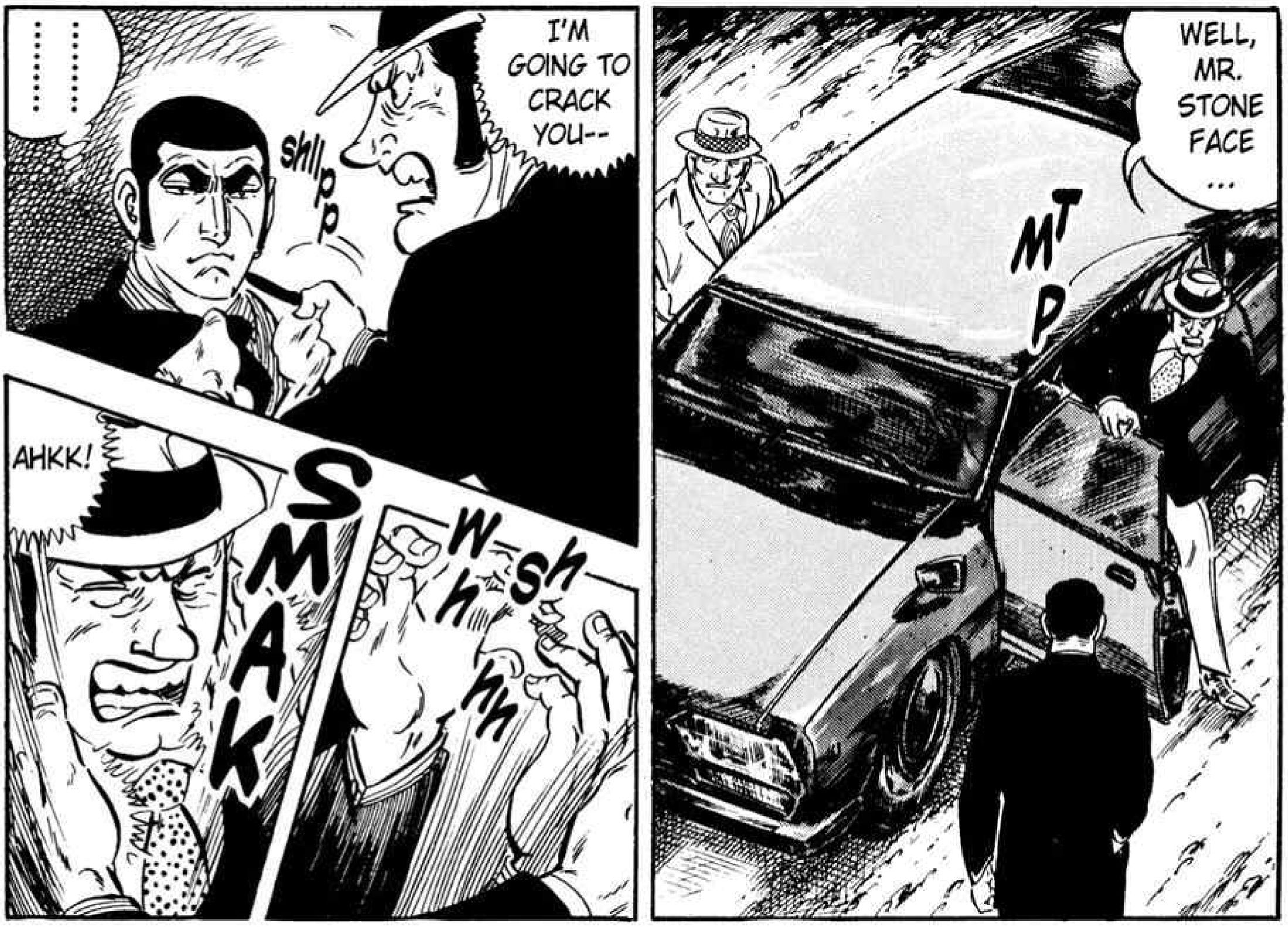
THAT'S US, ALL RIGHT.

YEAH.

HEY, YOU...

RIGHT...
HAD ME SCARED THERE A MOMENT, FRIEND!


TALK!
HEY!
.....
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT ABOUT TO SAY "LĒON"!
WHO ARE YOU?
...N'EST-CE PAS?
MADAME HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING WE WOULD BE COMING ...


.....
I'M GOING TO CRACK YOU--
shlpp
AHKK!
MAK
WHSH
WELL, MR. STONE FACE ...
MT P

THUD

FUCKER --

FWUP

EH?

CHAK

BLAM

KRA

A-AH ...

MMM

STO MD

WHAT'S

AHGG!

KRAK

PAM

CHAK BLAM

CHAK BLAM

!!

THOK

...FUCKIN' HURRY UP AN' KILL ME!

FUH ...

KRRNC

.....

BLBBLAMMMMMMMM

MP

JEAN! IT'S DOWN THERE!

.....

!?

IS THAT ...

SMELL THE SMOKE?
JESUS! LOOK AT GEORGES!
SHIT !
THIS JUST HAPPENED! SEARCH THE GROUNDS!

PART 8 CALM

HOW MANY?
WHEN ?

TWO MORE OF OUR MEN!

LĒON!

TMP TMP TMP

HAVE YOU LET LÉON KNOW !?

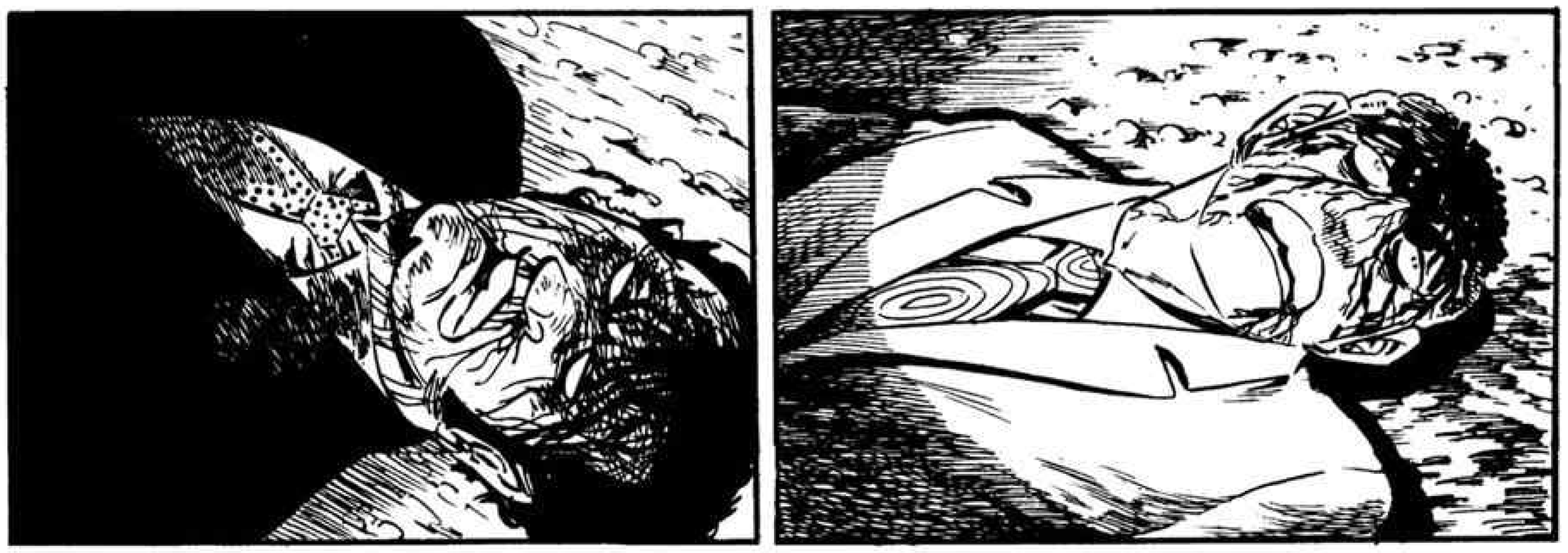
N-NO, NOT YET ...

COME QUICKLY.

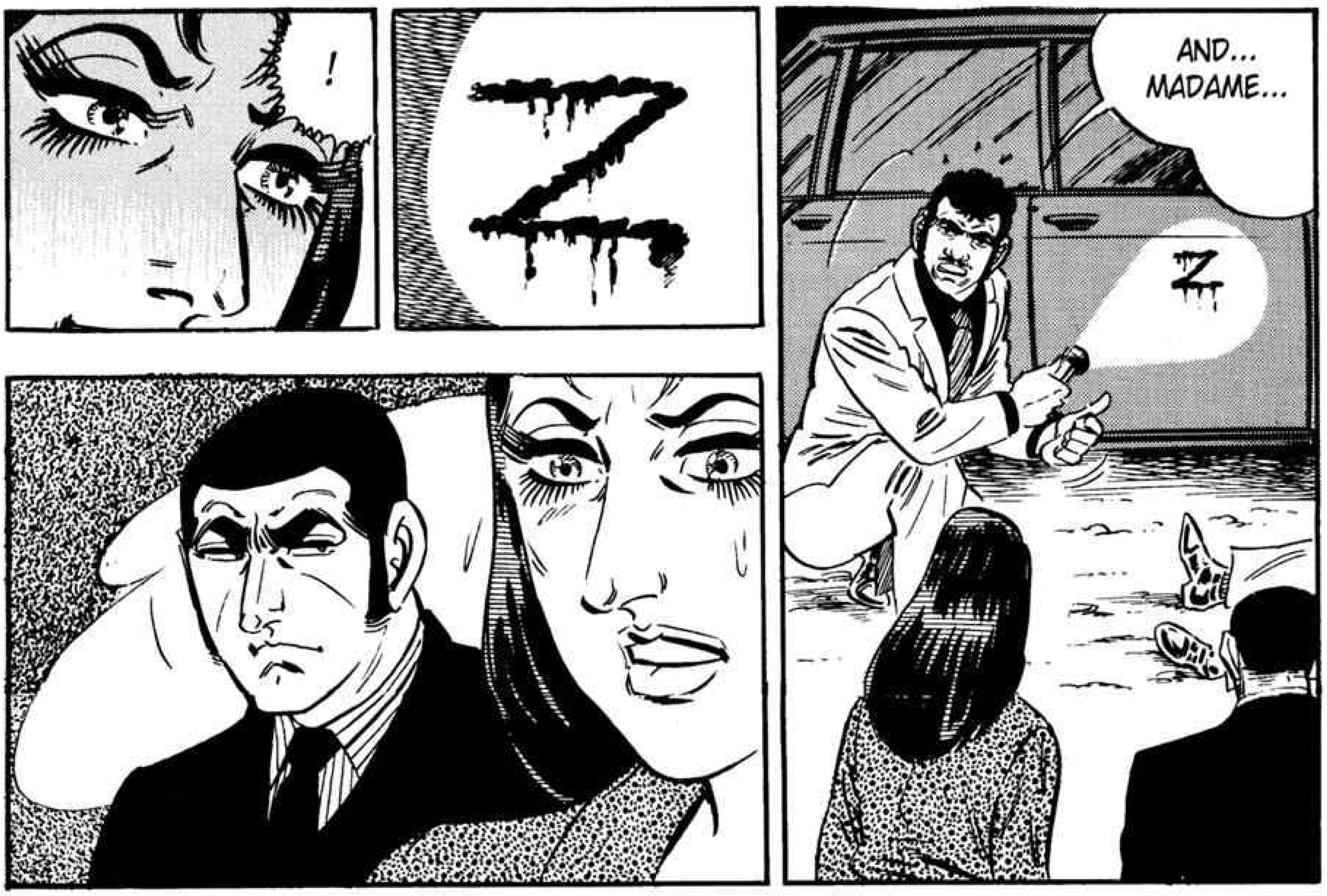
chak

THANK GOD!

TMP TMP TMP



THE BASTARDS SHOT VALENTIN... GEORGES, THEY MUTILATED FIRST!


!
Z
AND... MADAME...
Z

JEAN ...

THEY THINK WE CAN'T PROTECT HIM!

AVIGNON'S LETTING US KNOW STRAIGHT UP!

...TELL THEM HIS REAL NAME!

I THINK THEY TRIED TO MAKE HIM TALK...

WE THOUGHT VANISHING THEIR HIT TEAM FROM THE BELLACOSCIA WOULD FRIGHTEN THEM OFF...BUT THEY'VE JUST RECONSIDERED THEIR STRA-TEGY!

BUT *THEY* DIDN'T KNOW THAT!

.....

...ONLY I DO.

...POOR GEORGES DIDN'T KNOW THE DOCTOR'S IDENTITY...

.....

KILL THE ***WIZARD***, NOT HIS QUEEN, MADAME!

YES! AND *THAT* IS THE DANGER!

THAT KNOWLEDGE IS NOT TO BE FOUND, OUTSIDE MY HEAD...

THEY ARE WASTING THEIR TIME...

BUT THIS CITY SHALL SEE ITS QUEEN...

MY DEAR JEAN...I SHALL TAKE EVERY PRE-CAUTION.

WE PROTECT YOU WITH OUR LIVES, MADAME...BUT I ASK THAT YOU REMAIN SEQUESTERED, UNTIL WE FIND THE REST OF THEIR MEN HERE IN MARSEILLES...

SOONER OR LATER, THESE COWARDS WILL REALIZE THAT NO ONE BUT *LA PATRIARCHE* KNOWS. THEN IT WILL BE YOU THEY SEEK TO QUESTION.

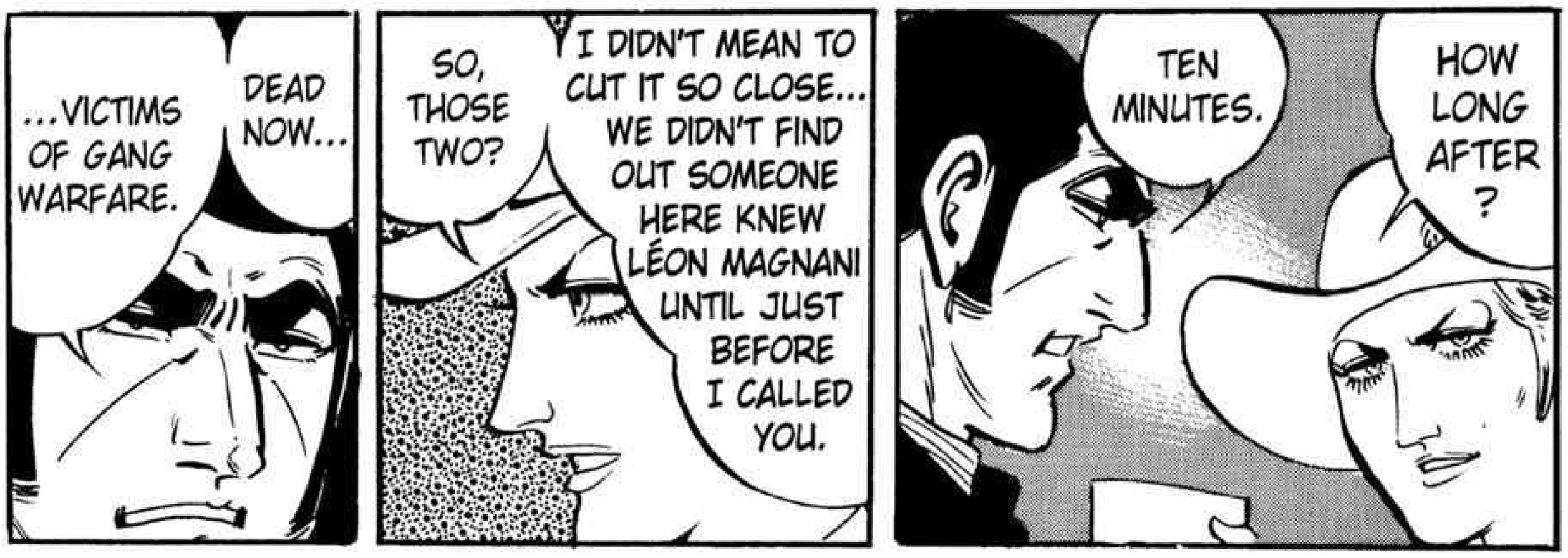
.....

.....

AND HER WANDERING KNIGHT.

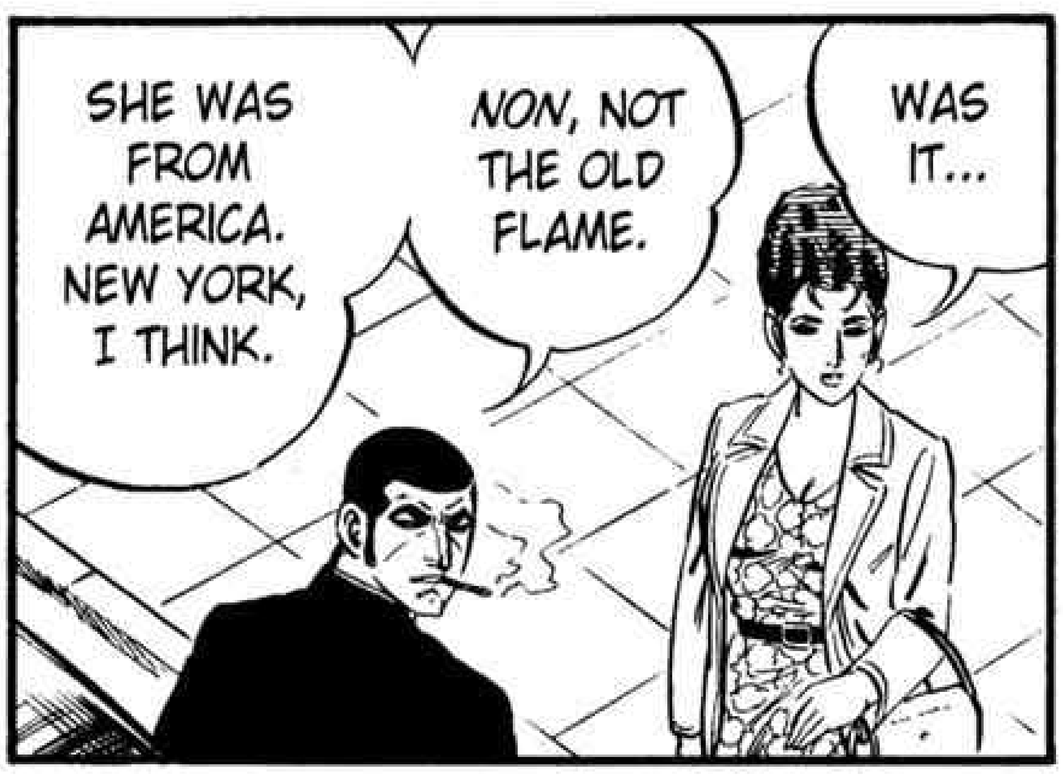
PART 9 CHEVALIER JAUNE

EXCUSE ME...


...VICTIMS OF GANG WARFARE.
DEAD NOW...
SO, THOSE TWO?
I DIDN'T MEAN TO CUT IT SO CLOSE... WE DIDN'T FIND OUT SOMEONE HERE KNEW LÉON MAGNANI UNTIL JUST BEFORE I CALLED YOU.
TEN MINUTES.
HOW LONG AFTER ?

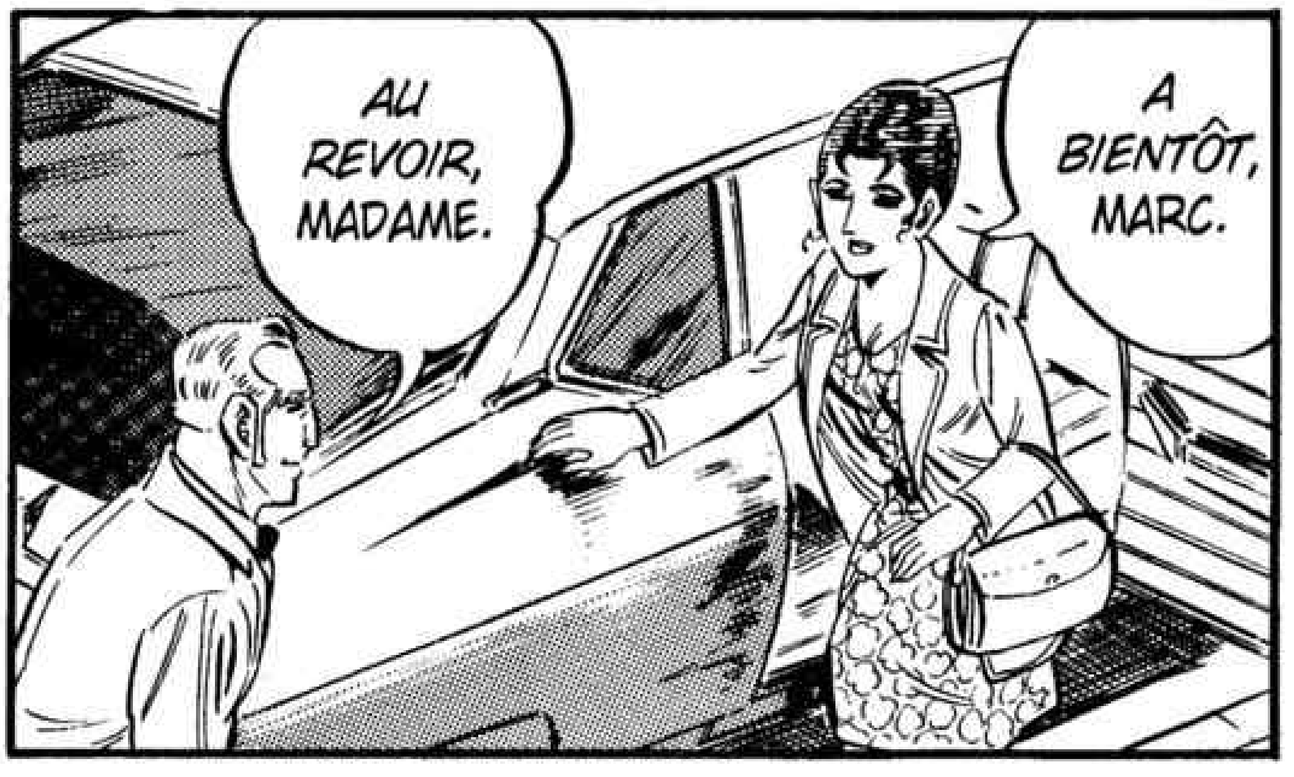
LOOK, I'VE BEEN TRYING TO FIND OUT FROM THE OUTSIDE... IF I HADN'T BEEN SHADOWING THESE THUGS, THOSE TWO MIGHT HAVE...
I CAN'T SHOOT A LETTER.
HA...IF THEY REALLY *WERE* TRYING TO KILL Z, IT WOULD SAVE YOU THE MISSION.

.....
DÉSOLÉ, M'SIEU.


SHE WAS FROM AMERICA. NEW YORK, I THINK.
NON, NOT THE OLD FLAME.
WAS IT...

...PERHAPS SHE DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.
KEPT ASKING ME WHERE THE CATHEDRAL WAS...I KEPT TELLING HER, JE SUIS CANADIEN ...

Kr
mp


AU REVOIR, MADAME.
A BIENTÔT, MARC.

VVVVRRRRMMMM

AIR LIN

DARK

LÉON...DO YOU THINK I'M BEING FOOLISH...?

YES...

TO THE OLD PORT?

.....

I MEANT FOOLISH TO WANT A MAN WHO'LL SOON LEAVE ME.

.....

NO...THERE'S NO NEED TO HIDE. THEY WON'T KILL YOU... AND THEY WON'T GET TO YOU.

SUGAKA

.....

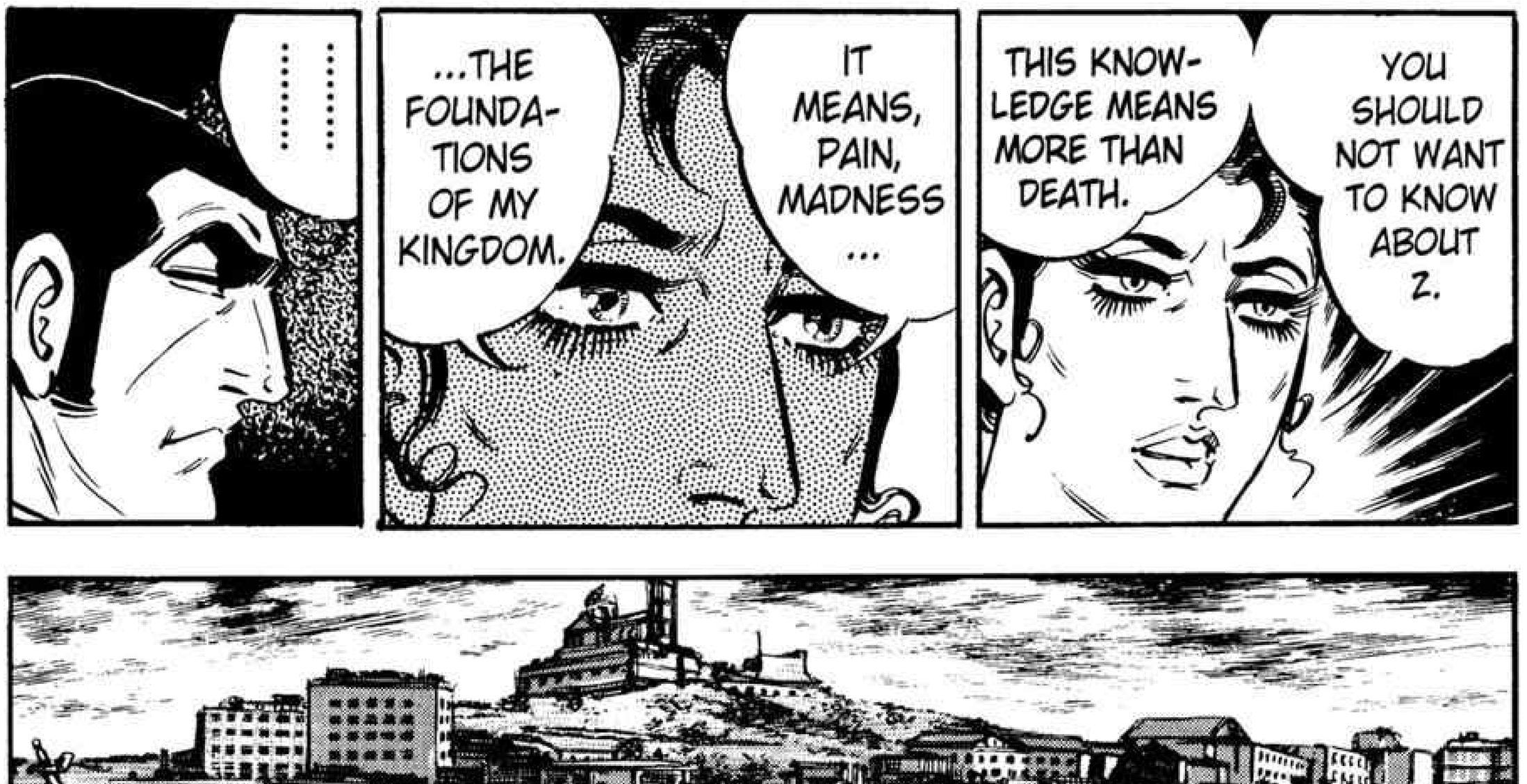
...CAN YOU GUARD HIM ALONE?

MADAME...

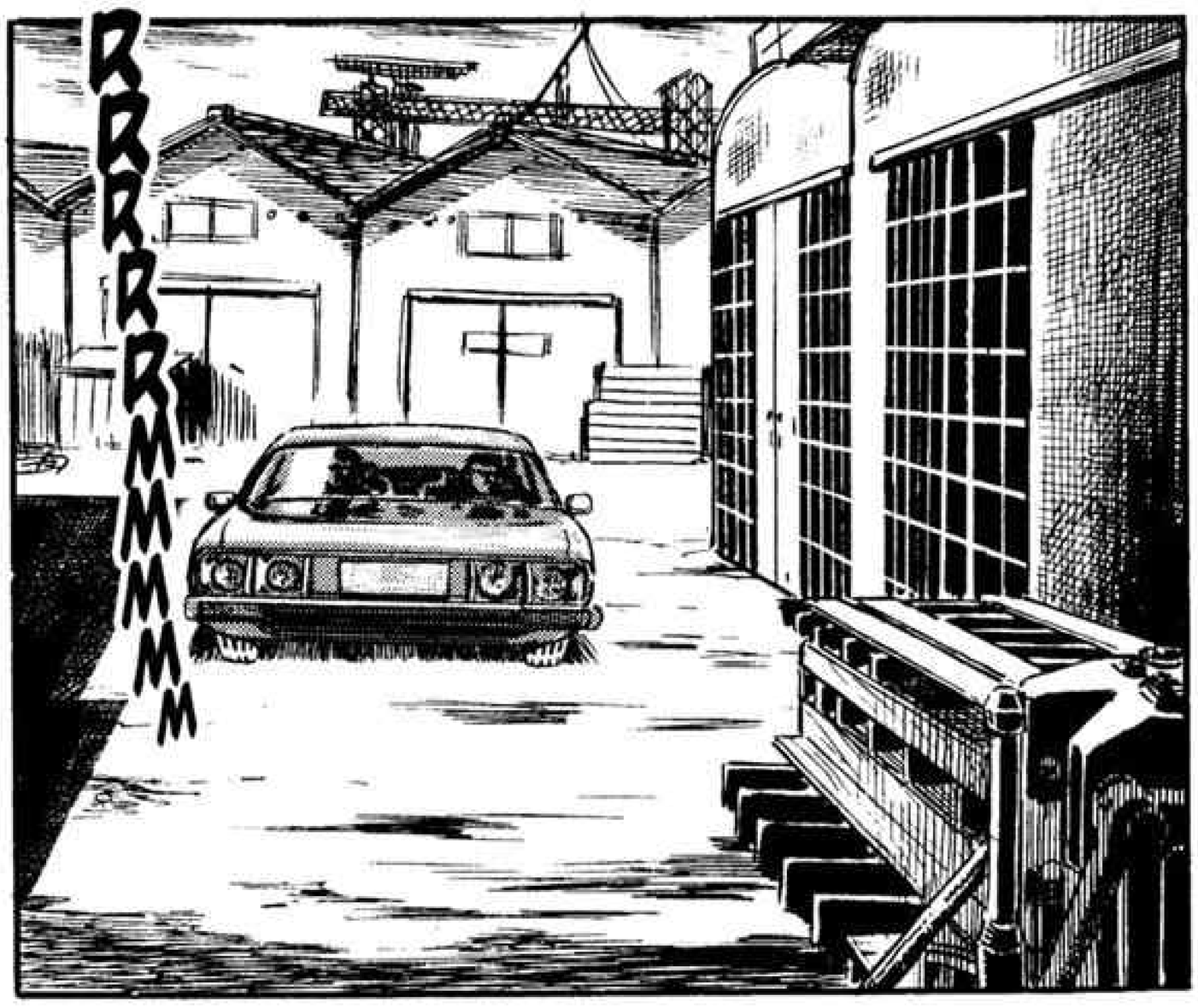
NO.

I CAN GET...

I DON'T HAVE TO FLY TO SAIGON NEXT WEEK.


.....
...THE FOUNDA-TIONS OF MY KINGDOM.
IT MEANS, PAIN, MADNESS ...
THIS KNOW-LEDGE MEANS MORE THAN DEATH.
YOU SHOULD NOT WANT TO KNOW ABOUT Z.

THE THIRD ONE DOWN.

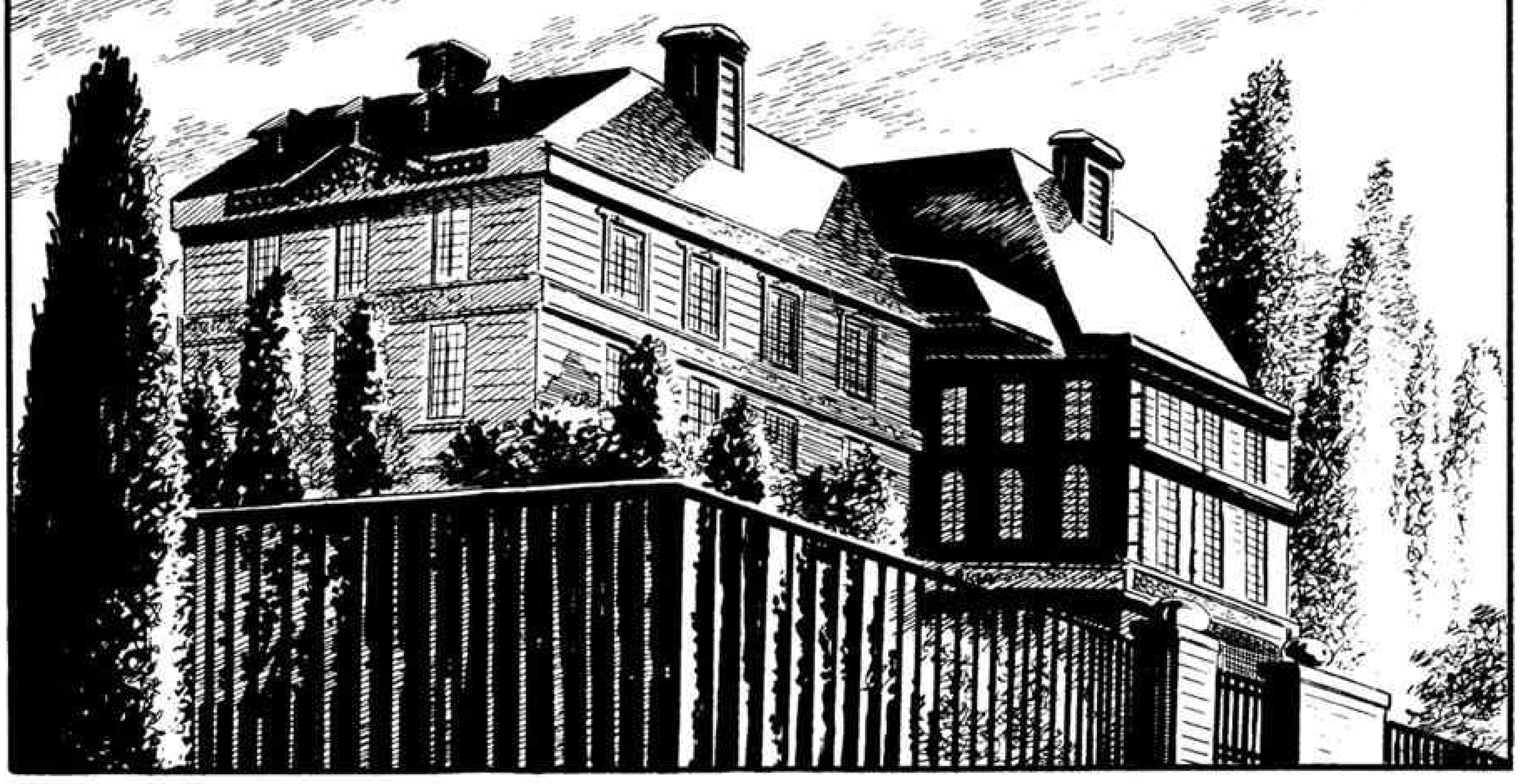

RRRRMMMMM

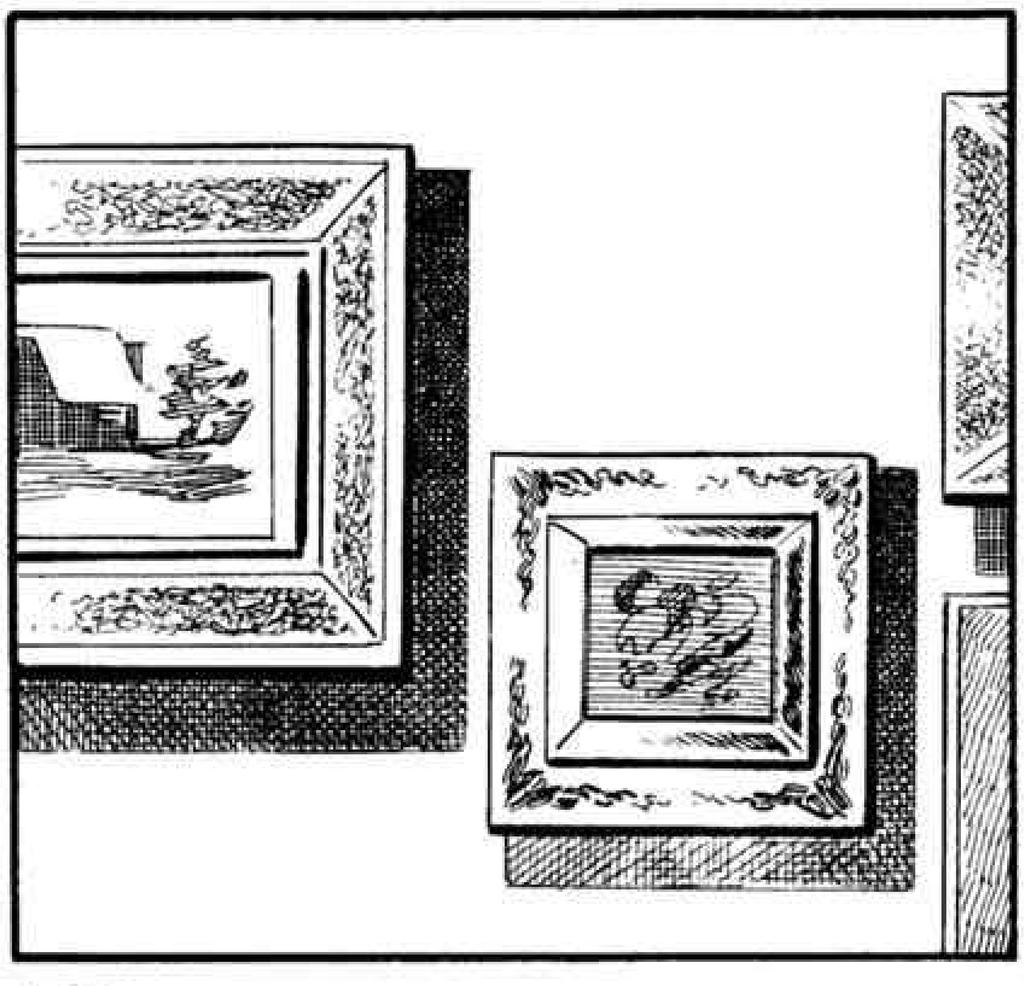
TONK
TONK
TONK

chak

WAIT HERE.

PART 10 CROQUIS ÉTRANGES





DO YOU LIKE THEM... ?

AH!

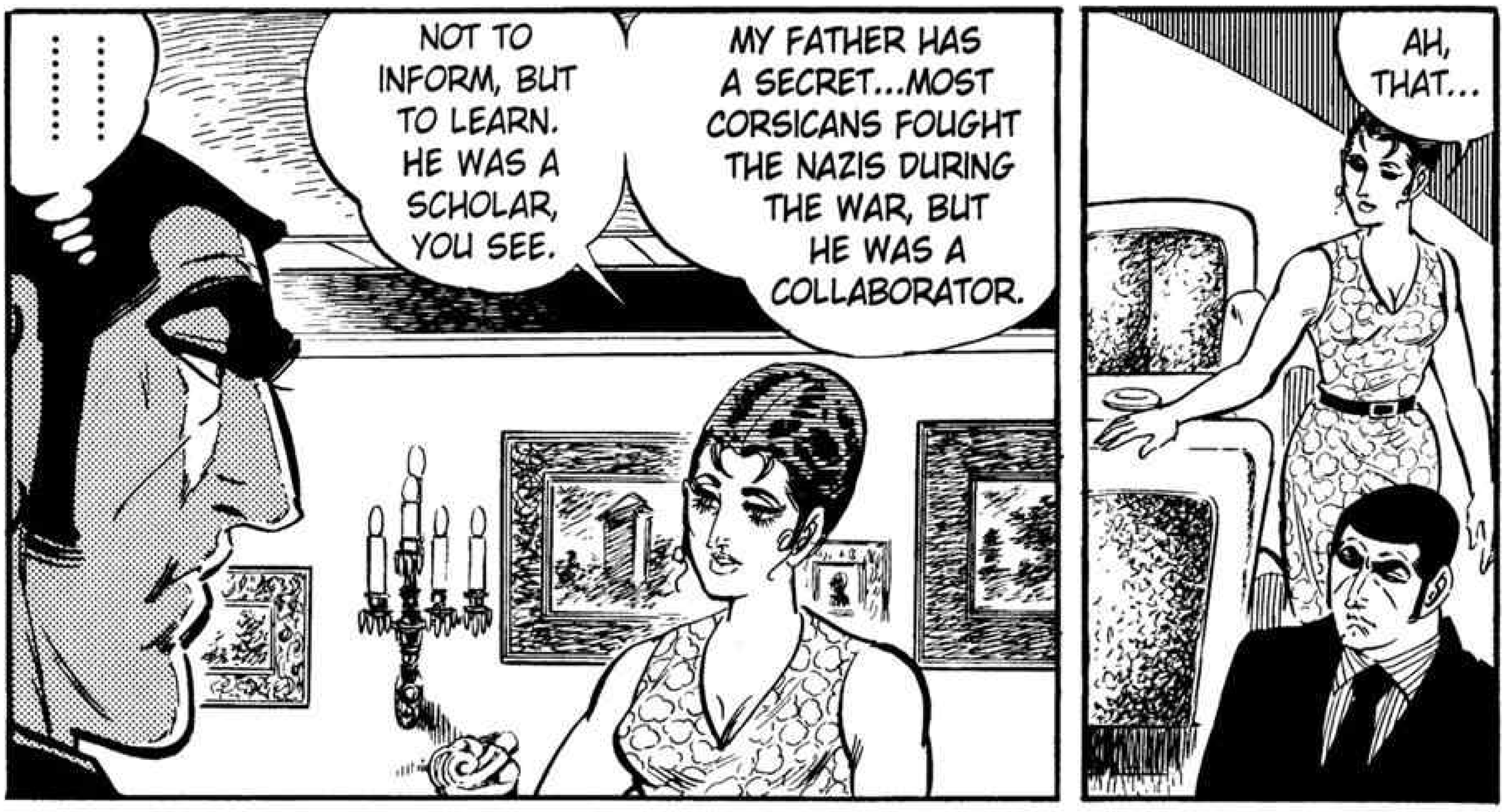
MY FATHER DREW IT.

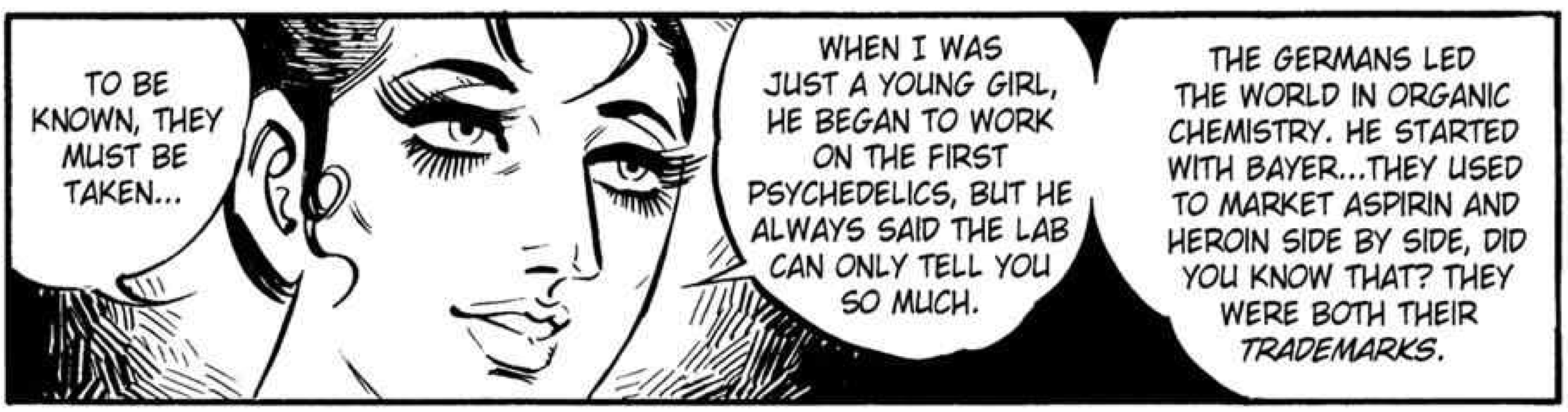
.....

THESE FOUR..

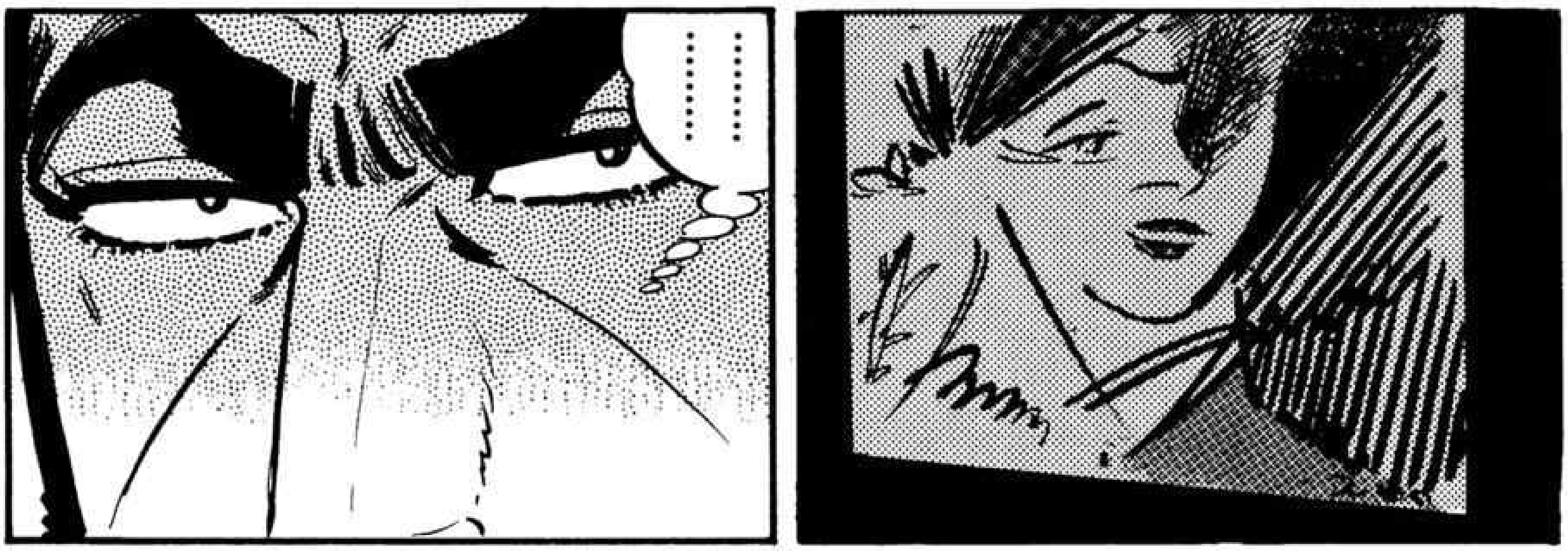
WHY DOES IT CHANGE?

THE PORTRAIT OF YOU ...


.....
NOT TO INFORM, BUT TO LEARN. HE WAS A SCHOLAR, YOU SEE.
MY FATHER HAS A SECRET...MOST CORSICANS FOUGHT THE NAZIS DURING THE WAR, BUT HE WAS A COLLABORATOR.
AH, THAT...


TO BE KNOWN, THEY MUST BE TAKEN...
WHEN I WAS JUST A YOUNG GIRL, HE BEGAN TO WORK ON THE FIRST PSYCHEDELICS, BUT HE ALWAYS SAID THE LAB CAN ONLY TELL YOU SO MUCH.
THE GERMANS LED THE WORLD IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY. HE STARTED WITH BAYER...THEY USED TO MARKET ASPIRIN AND HEROIN SIDE BY SIDE, DID YOU KNOW THAT? THEY WERE BOTH THEIR *TRADEMARKS*.

OH, YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HIM CHANGE AS HE WENT FROM SKETCH TO SKETCH. HE BE-CAME A WHOLE OTHER PERSON, A CHILD AGAIN.
YES!
HE... TAKES THEM?


.....

chak
MADAME !

.....
.....

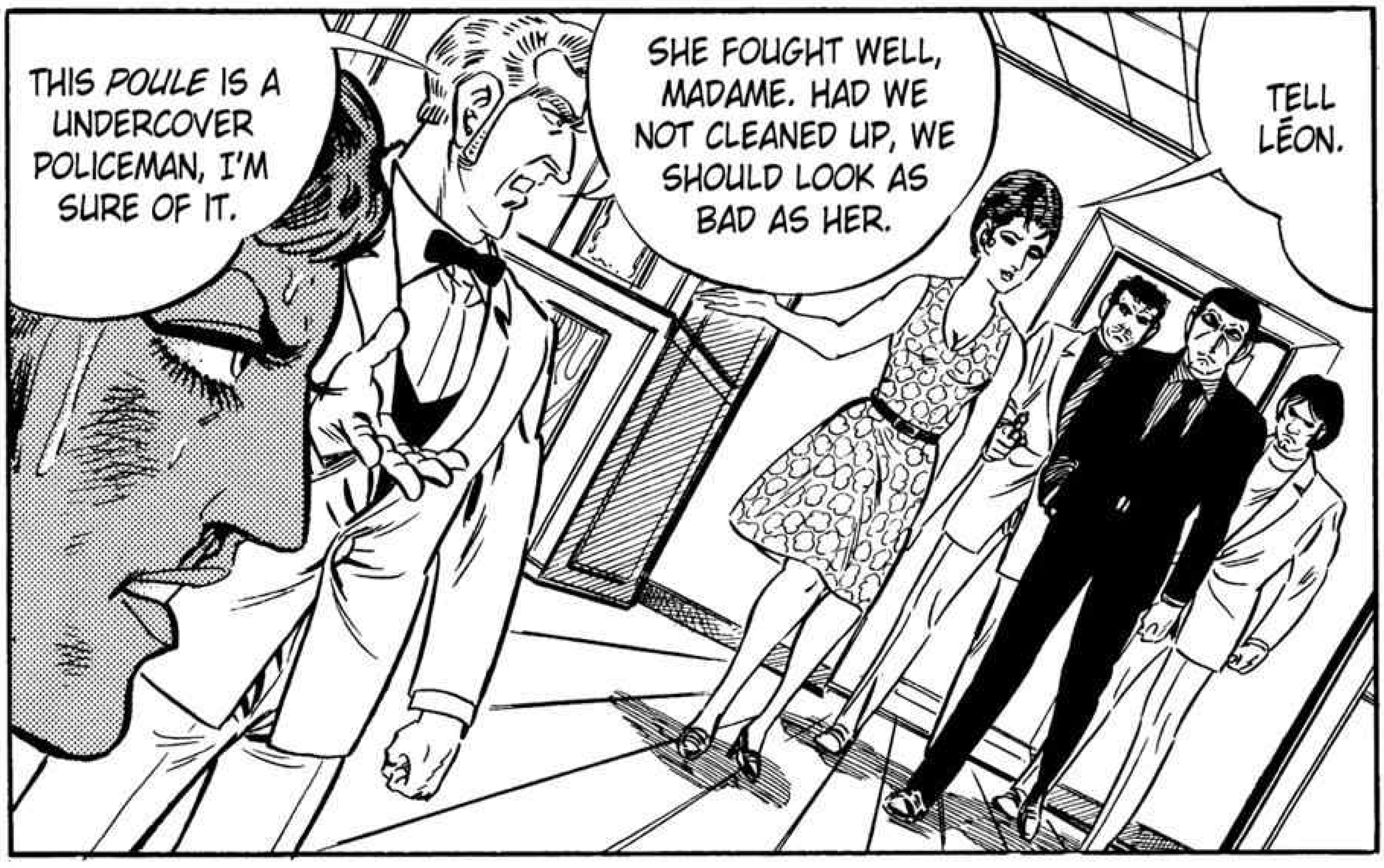
HM
?

LÉON
...
...I WAS RIGHT ABOUT YOU.

MOVE!
.....
COME ALONG, PLEASE.

13

PART 11 THE LAST LETTER


THIS *POULE* IS A UNDERCOVER POLICEMAN, I'M SURE OF IT.
SHE FOUGHT WELL, MADAME. HAD WE NOT CLEANED UP, WE SHOULD LOOK AS BAD AS HER.
TELL LÉON.

...ONLY AS A BOSS.

I'M NOT JEALOUS AS A WOMAN, CHERI...

.....

...DIDN'T KNOW.

I...

.....

DON'T MISS.

THERE IS ONLY ONE BULLET INSIDE.

...PLEASE SHOOT HER.

FOR OUR LOVE, LÉON...

.....

TAKE IT!

WELL?

ah!

?

MA-DAME!

SHOOT HER!

LÉON!

WHAT ?

...IT'S ON THE WRONG HAND.

CHAT

BUT YOU WEAR IT ON YOUR *LEFT* HAND.

THE RING, IN THOSE DRAWINGS-- IT'S ON THE WRONG HAND. ON YOUR RIGHT HAND.

.....

...FRIGHTENED OF THINGS THAT AREN'T REALLY THERE-- BUT YOU'RE STILL FRIGHTENED.

I THINK YOU'RE FRIGHT-ENED...

.....

...AND YOU MADE THOSE DRAWINGS OUT OF WHAT-EVER YOU SEE IN THE MIRROR.

YOUR FATHER'S BEEN DEAD FOR YEARS, EXCEPT INSIDE YOUR HEAD ...

WSHH

CK

...kill him.

NO...IT ISN'T...

...THERE IS ONE BULLET, RIGHT?

DR. Z...

YOU HAD BETTER TELL THEM NOT TO.

THAT WASN'T ME!

.....

THAT WASN'T HIM!

LÉON! YOU MUST NEVER TELL ANYONE ABOUT MY FATHER!

KILL HIM!
WSHH
CRAK
BRRALB
BLAMMM

skrip

smak

WHMPT

smak

smak

KRAK

KRAK

hc

ik

KRAK

SHIT--

KI-KI-

WHISH!!

BAM

ドド

.....

.....

MY HEAD ...

TO CUT OFF ...

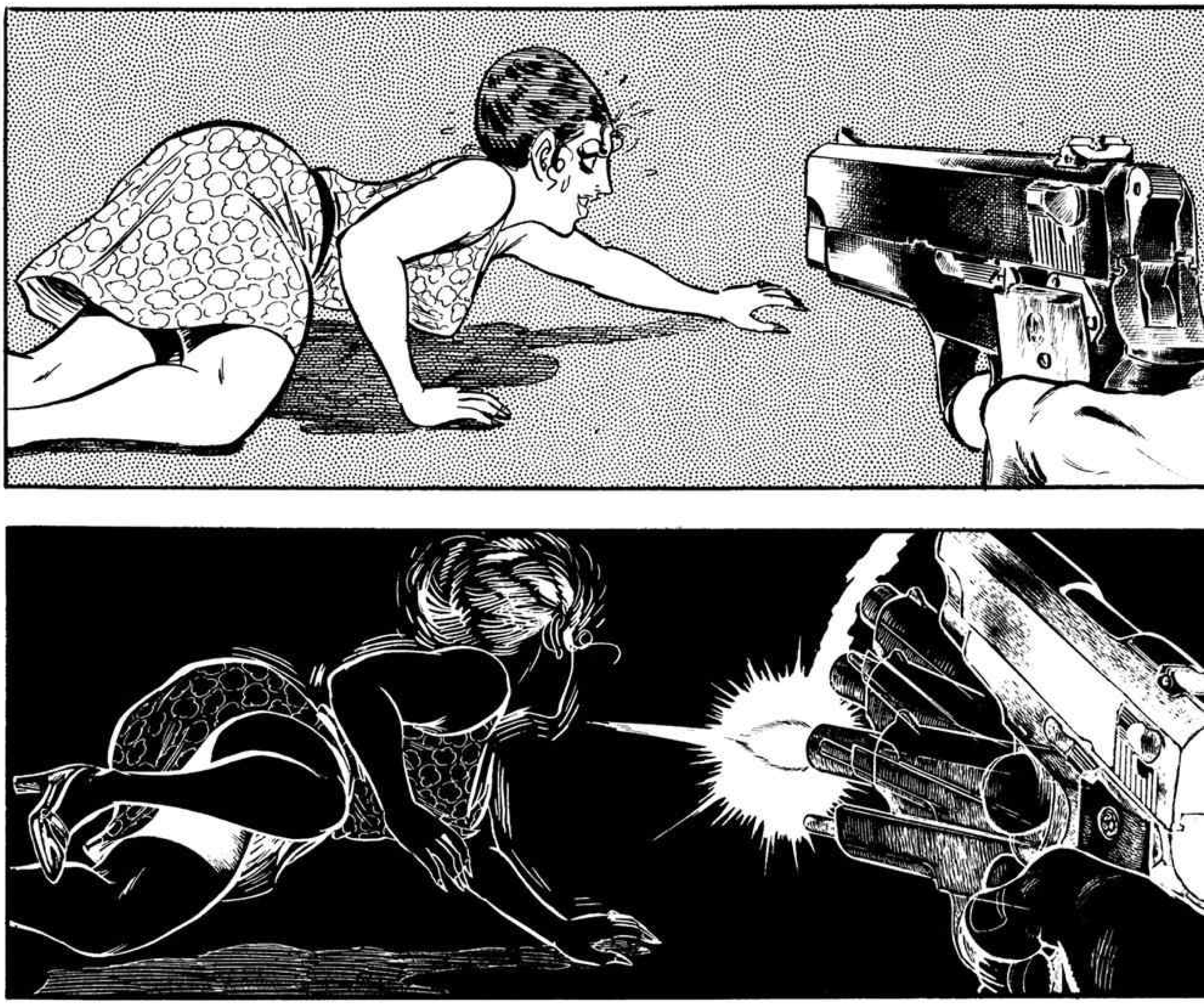
I TRIED ...

...and it crawled...

.....

...AND IT CRAWLED ...

...BUT I ALWAYS HAD ANOTHER HEAD...

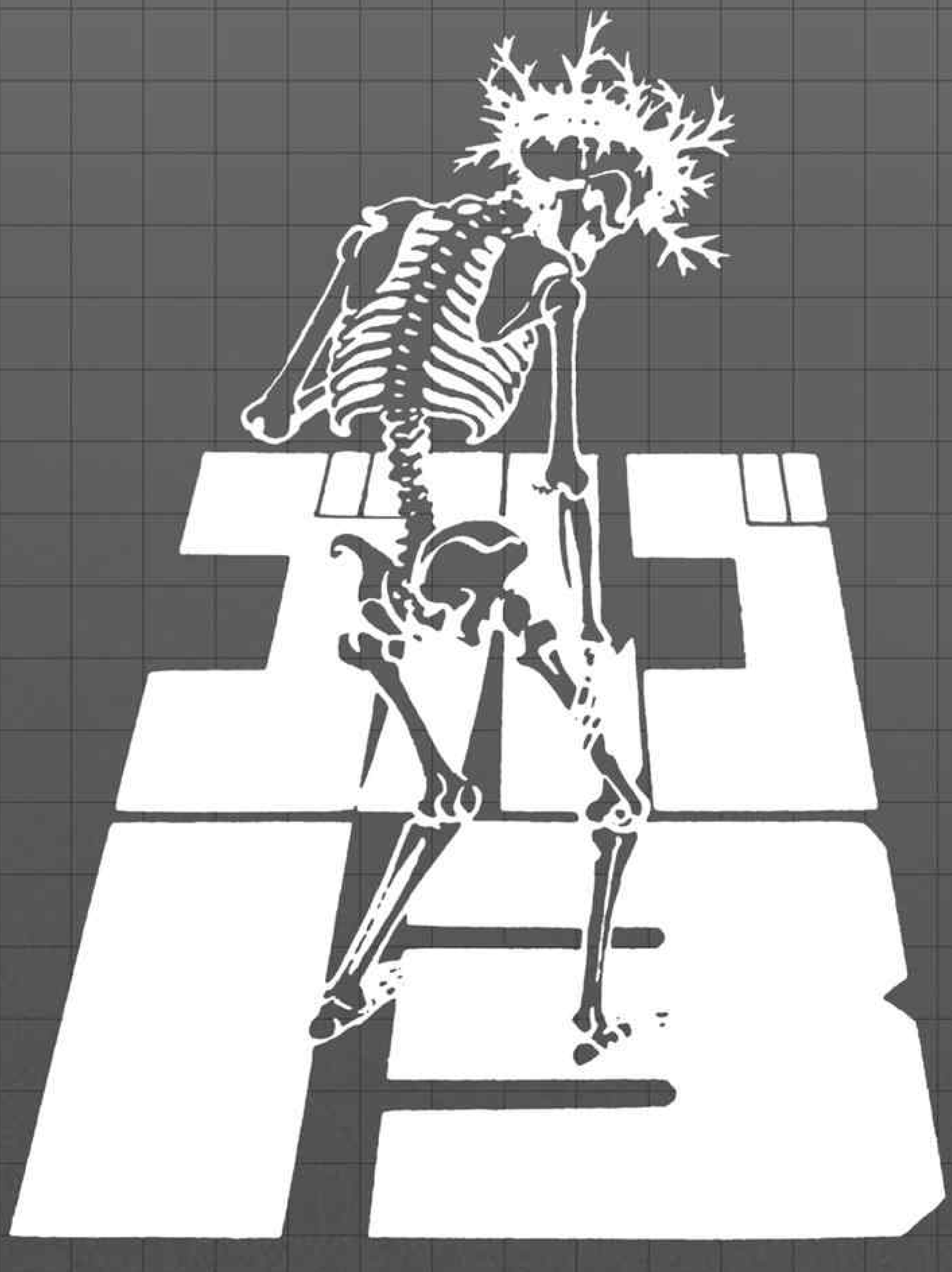


END

Hydra
Golgo 13 Story #88, October 1974

FILE 13

Secrets of the World's Deadliest Assassin



Summary: History and profile of **GOLGO 13** (a.k.a. "Duke Togo," other aliases) since 1968; sources include former KGB, CIA, MI-6, Mossad, and other world intelligence agencies.

GOLGO 13
STYLES OF DRESS

• Golgo 13 is a sniper, but also a businessman, and often wears a two-piece suit when meeting a prospective client. This is also his "work" dress, allowing him to blend in when operating, as he frequently does, inside an urban environment. If the mission requires him not to be observed at all before he reaches the objective or firing point, G13 will dress appropriately, in such attire as camouflage for the outdoors or black, full body tights for night work. Conversely, on the rare non-sniping commission he accepts where stealth *per se* is not an issue (such as undertaking a military assault) he will wear combat or protective gear.

• Prefers waisted, single-breasted suits in light to medium weight with plain cuffs; rarely double-breasted or with a vest. Usually in a solid color, although pinstripes and checks have been observed. Most atypical by the standards of modern men's business style is G13's frequent use of very light suit colors.

• Golgo's suit jackets show considerable idiosyncrasies in cut, suggesting he takes an active interest in their tailoring (see vol. 01's File 13 under "Habits and Methods"). Some are sewn without lapels or collars, or have unusual variations such as employing the kind of extra "display" buttons ordinarily found only on double-breasted suits in men. Many jackets that would at first appear to be two-button and fastened with the top one are, on closer inspection, jackets that have only a single and larger button. A general impression of looseness across the chest suggests the desire for an unimpeded draw from the shoulder holster of the revolver he carries for self-defense (see vol. 01's File 13 under "Personal Data").

• Frequently wears beneath the suit jacket not only collared button-down shirts, but collarless shirts or turtlenecks, all in widely varying patterns. Generally will not wear a pattern beneath his jacket if his jacket is patterned, and vice versa.

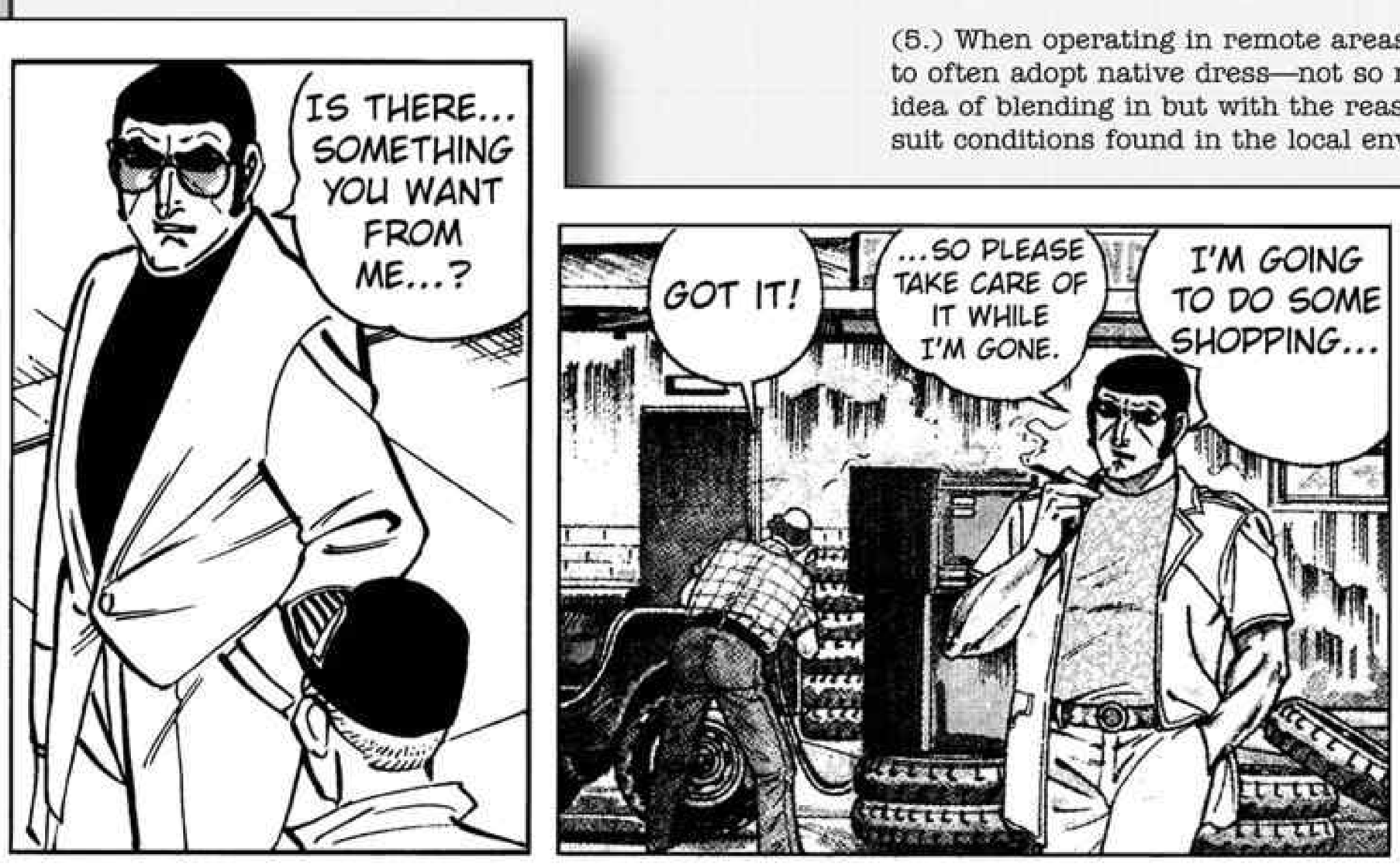
• Considerable variation in neckwear. Ties are usually solid although patterns have been observed. However, frequently goes without a tie (possibly because of its potential danger in hand-to-hand combat); has also worn a loosely-tied silk cravat. Unusual accessorizations include a centered brooch on the collar of a turtleneck, or the use of collar studs on a shirt worn without a tie, sometimes unbuttoned at the neck.

• Generally wears a trench coat rather than a wool long coat or greatcoat; however, will wear heavier cover if the climate requires it.

• Otherwise not averse to wearing whatever clothing is natural for his locale or cover identity; has worn regional or traditional dress, blue-collar attire, etc. (see note 5).

• Note that in Special Edition Story #14, (in addition to the 400+regular *Golgo 13* stories, over 60 more have been published as "Special Editions") "One Who Brings About Calamity," G13 was spotted spending his off time in a casual jacket and t-shirt (see picture lower right).

(5.) When operating in remote areas, Golgo is known to often adopt native dress—not so much with the idea of blending in but with the reasoning it will best suit conditions found in the local environment.



GOLGO 13
FAVORITE THINGS

Gtractor
IN THIS OVER-WHELMING WORLD...
...EVEN SO, I WAS SURPRISED THAT THE CALL SIGN FOR CONTACTING YOU STILL WORKS.
THAT ISN'T HYMN 15 -IT'S 13!

• Tobacco: Smokes Parliaments, but also often Turkish cigarillos. Lights with a Zippo.
• Watch: Unknown brand and type, but often used as a place to conceal tools or weapons, such as a small knife or explosives. Note: to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the story, the Japanese vol. 130 of the *Golgo 13* manga announced a giveaway of Rolex Oyster Perpetuals to each of 13 lucky fans. Try getting *that* from *Shonen Jump*.
• Soap: Golgo uses "Brown Windsor," the Victorian blend of bergamot, caraway, cassia, lavender, clove, and petitgrain currently favored by HRH Prince Phillip. No cheap lingering fragrance at all.
• Wine: Golgo drinks Scharzhofberger from the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer region.
• Underwear: Briefs rather than boxers, label unknown. Habitually wears white, but did wear black on one recorded occasion.

Golgo's pheromone seems to work on anyone. An elderly female has said of him "Isn't he quite handsome?" (Story #9, "Côte d'Azur," 1969)

GOLGO 13
METHODS OF CONTACT

Golgo 13's insistence upon independence of action (see vol. 01's File 13 under "Conditions for Accepting a Job") is reflected in a wide variety of differing methods of contact he has established for clients to reach him over the years. Except as noted below, the current status of these methods (i.e., whether they remain in active use) is uncertain. Documented examples include:

• Writing a letter to Marcus Montgomery, a certain inmate at a correctional facility in Atlanta, GA. Marcus will put in a request for "Hymn 13" on two different nationally syndicated weekly radio gospel shows (see note 7). If Golgo hears the hymn performed that week, he will place a three-line advertisement in the national edition of *The New York Times*, "Responding to prospectus to manufacture the G-type Tractor," followed by contact information for the client.
• Placing an inquiry about the "G-type Tractor" in the classifieds of *The Washington Post* (not *The New York Times*).
• Because of G13's use of a Swiss bank to receive his payments (see again the previous "Conditions for Accepting a Job"), it is perhaps unsurprising that Swiss newspapers have also been reported as a contact method, including placing an ad for the "G & M Company" ("M" being the 13th letter of the Roman alphabet) or, in the personals section, the notice "I would like to eat fondue with just the two of us."
• Placing a certain share order for "United Horizon Land Development," traded on NASDAQ. Golgo will then follow with a NYT ad as above.
• Speaking the phrase "I came through an introduction by Ramlösa on the hill" to the administrator of a certain Spanish orphanage.
• Broadcasting a query by ham radio (call sign unknown).
• Sending a picture postcard to an address in Penzance in southwestern England. An agent, Sloan, will then forward it to an office in New York via airmail. The postcard should be addressed to a "William Partridge," and contain the message, "I heard that you are close to death from cancer, but want to get into the *Guinness Book of Records* for the most postcards received. Please accept this contribution." (see note 8)
• SBM news in Macao carried a report that was later understood to have been a contact signal, reporting on an explosion at "Tank 13" at a chemical facility in Taiwan.
• During a stay in Mozambique, an urgent contact came in the form of a news broadcast reporting the sudden collapse of a church in America while parishioners were singing a certain hymn. The party responsible for placing this story was the American Embassy; however, Golgo appeared unhappy to have been called out this way. (see note 9)
• In recent years, there is evidence of G13 communicating with clients via e-mail (both by notebook computer and cellular phone). It is unknown whether this method is direct, or (as seems more likely) through a third party.

(7.) It is very probable that "Hymn 13" is not one specific hymn, but a variety of different ones. Hymnals commonly have a numbered index, but there is no standard ordering among the wide variety of hymnbooks used by different Christian sects and denominations. For example, in the Anglican English Hymnal, Hymn 13 is Joseph Anstice's 1836 "When came in flesh the incarnate Word." Often the Psalms are sung as hymns; however while in the Protestant notation the 13th Psalm is "How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord," the Catholic ordering has it to be "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." The system therefore has an additional layer of obscurity; one would have to know, as Golgo and/or Montgomery presumably do, that the work performed happens to be the thirteenth in the hymnal used by the particular congregation singing.
(8.) This method is known to be obsolete, but seems to have been succeeded by an unknown follow-up. The office in Penzance was apparently one of G13's business properties (see "Property & Assets," below) but after 15 years became an unsuitable site due to local noise interference. Its closing was accompanied by an ad placed in representative newspapers from the 29 member nations of the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development). "The Togo Corporation: Notice to Clients. The Corporation would like to extend its thanks for the habitual patronage of its Penzance office over the years. We regret the inconvenience its closing may entail and look forward to your continued trade through our other locations. (signed) Duke Togo, Director."
(9.) The use of Christian hymns as a contact method is duly noted, but, as with the code name "Golgo 13" itself (see vol. 01's File 13 under "Theories of the Alias") it cannot be determined precisely what significance it has to G13 himself. Besides contact through the above routes, there are other instances using different methods, such as a royal counselor to the late King Fahd tracing Golgo through the Saudi ownership stake in one of G13's banks (Story #194, "The 110-Degree Angle," 1983). It is perhaps of equal significance that a poor peasant living in a remote area of rural Brazil was also able to contact Golgo, using a method (not described) he had overheard in a conversation between bandits (Story #160, "Galinpero," 1980).

GOLGO 13
PRISON RECORD

The following is a list of known instances where G13 was incarcerated. Details of sentence are given where available. Some confinements appear to have been deliberately sought, in order to carry out a job (see vol. 01's File 13 under "Cover Occupations"); others were inadvertent.

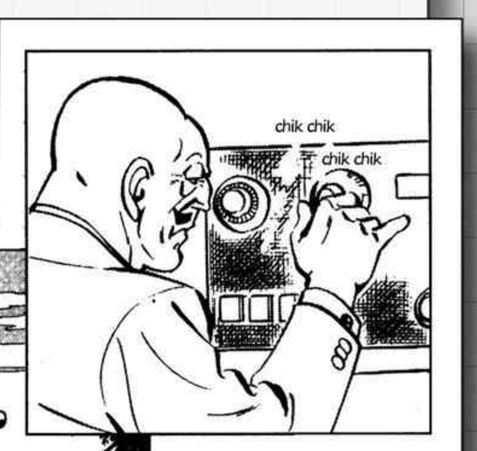
• Story #1, "Operation Big Safe," 1969
For assault; sentenced to work camp. (Former) West Germany.
• Story #5, "Sleep in a Cage," 1969
For attempted murder, sexual assault, arson, robbery, and vandalism; given a life sentence. Alaska, U.S.
• Story #99, "Reunion with a 60 Day Blank," 1975
Preventive detention; Golgo was arrested when he was discovered to be a hit man and confined to a local facility. Nouakchott, Mauritania. (see note 11)
• Story #164, "Robben Island Prison," 1980
For immorality, Communist activity, and forced obscenity. South Africa.
• Story #263, "Devil upon the Water," 1988
For participation in an anti-apartheid demonstration and assault on a white police officer. South Africa.
• Story #352, "The Thirteenth Juror," 1996
Held for trial on charges of assault on a white police officer, and on suspicion of obstruction of justice. Acquitted when evidence of the officer's alcohol abuse was presented. It was noted at the time of his arrest—under a pseudonym—that he had "no previous criminal record." Mississippi, U.S.
• Story #370, "Bloodstained Prison," 1997
For assault and obstruction of justice. Sentenced to three years. California, U.S.

(11.) It should be apparent from his continued career that G13 is a skilled prison-breaker, both by legal and irregular means. In fact the longest time he has remained in actual confinement was in the Nouakchott facility, where he spent 59 days in a cell described as "hell on Earth," where temperature conditions swung from over 40 degrees Centigrade during the day to below freezing at night.

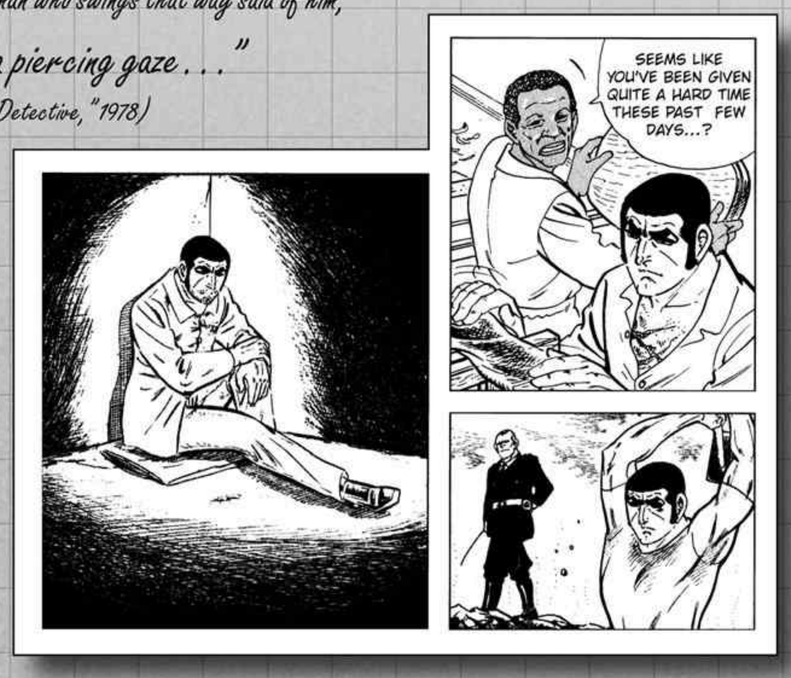
GOLGO 13
PROPERTY & ASSETS

• Has had, or has currently, known Swiss accounts with the Banque Nationale (Geneva), Banque Lambert (Geneva), Auzer Höhen Bank (Zurich), and Berner Oberland (Zurich); others probable.
• There have been three known violent incidents associated with the administrators of Golgo's Swiss accounts. Two involved the Banque Nationale (see note 10). In Story #20, "Code Name Insect—The Final Spy" (1970), G13 was double-crossed by Dwight David Greenhill, the bank's U.S.-born president. It is believed that Golgo spared his life because he could make use of him on a planned mission (it is also understood he assessed a "penalty" upon Greenhill of US $1 million in traveller's checks) but Greenhill retired immediately thereafter, passing on the position to his son. This incident had an ironic follow-up in 1979, when Greenhill himself hired G13 to carry out a hit in order to redeem the fiduciary misconduct of his son. The elder Greenhill then committed suicide (Story #151, "Death to the Shah").
• The third incident (date unknown) involved gold ingots G13 had on deposit with the Auzer Höhen Bank. Apparently unknown to Golgo, one of his victims had been a close personal friend of the bank president, who, in an attempt to avenge him, sealed Golgo in the vault, hoping to achieve his death by suffocation.
• A future installment of File 13 will contain an estimate of G13's career earnings based on fees received; however, his current traceable assets appear highly diversified: cash, bonds, trust deposits, precious metals (both as futures and specie), property (five mountain cottages and seven apartments), and land, including one of Japan's many smaller islands (in the 1999 Special Edition Story #56, "Glass Fortress," an employee at a sightseeing company told G13, "But, sir—you already own an island."

(10.) G13's account number at the Banque Nationale was known to have been F5 R6 I5 D1 A3 XY.



And homosexuals as well. A black man who swings that way said of him,
"He was attractive, with a piercing gaze . . ."
(Special Edition Story #11, "Farewell Detective," 1978)



GOLGO 13
SERIOUS INJURIES

Other serious injuries Golgo is known to have experienced to his main shooting hand or arm include:

• Severe frostbite to his hands during a job on Qomolangma (the Nepalese name for Mt. Everest), causing him to lose most of their function for a short period of time.
• Glass shards from a traffic accident threatened to remove all function in his right arm, but he made an astonishing recovery following a difficult surgical repair procedure.
• Both hands suffered burns while escaping from a fire in a building; was unable to hold a gun for several weeks.
• Early in his career, in 1969, Golgo found himself in a gunfight with Dave "Golden Boy" Kruger, a U.S. collegiate shooting champ. Kruger was the protégé of Cincinnati crime boss Nicolas Melangy, who hoped to launch his career as an enforcer by arranging the duel with Golgo. In the event, Kruger managed to shoot G13 in his right arm and hand, but was killed when Golgo managed to fire using his left. Leaving the scene in a car, Golgo thought to himself with unusual vehemence, "If you don't want me to do the job [of killing you], now would be your chance, Melangy...If you don't take it, a wolf's fang heals quickly...and when it does, that will be your end." As with the incident surrounding Dwight David Greenhill related above, it may be surmised G13's immediate zero-tolerance approach toward betrayal, as well as his sensitivity to surroundings (Kruger had gotten the drop on him) took shape over time—perhaps as he developed the experience and abilities to back such practices up. (see note 13)

(13.) Golgo's right arm has been injured in other instances besides the ones recorded here; however, these were superficial injuries.

G's Analects: "When a man . . . has a woman clinging to him, saying she wants to forget something . . . there is only one thing he can do for her . . ."
(Story #44, "Voodoo," 1971)

GOLGO 13
CHRONIC DISEASE

• Golgo exhibits superb physical strength and endurance, but has suffered from a recurring condition where his right hand becomes paralyzed. This has been tentatively diagnosed as Guillain-Barré Syndrome (see note 12), but one specialist who examined him was of the opinion it was psychosomatic; see also discussion below.

• Recession of symptoms on two occasions was associated with confrontations with women—after the rape of a neurologist who attempted to dose his coffee with mescaline (Story #34 "When One Looks Good in Mourning Clothes," 1970), and after his exposing himself to a lesbian assassin whom, he believed, possessed a fear of men (Story #57, "Cassowary," 1972).

• During the most recent known attack (Story #387, "TMD Illusion," 1999) Golgo was observed to purchase a blend of 15 medicinal herbs from a Taiwanese apothecary nameed Yun Nan Tang. The proprietor remarked it was "the usual," so it can be surmised that G13 visits here regularly.

• On one occasion (Story #150, "Private Time," 1979) Golgo appeared to seek a definitive diagnosis by hiring a team of four physicians to examine him on a medically-equipped ship (presumably a security measure on G13's part). No physical problem was determined, and the past opinion was recalled that the condition is an expression of stress or possibly childhood trauma.

• Golgo does display symptoms during his attacks associated with a fear or anxiety neurosis; sudden breathlessness, palpitation, trembling, sweating, numbness, and cold sweats.

• By the standards of any normal person, Golgo 13 is unintimidated by danger. It is understood this is not due to any recklessness, but an understanding that his profession requires it, and a knowledge that he is capable of mastering most threats to his life. However, G13 himself has said that this mastery is driven by a strong fear that it will eventually prove unequal to the threat. He seems unwilling to do the logical thing and retire (unless he believes that retirement would increase, not lessen, his chance of death) and some analysts have argued he may be caught in continual neurotic engagement between his inflicting of death and his fear of death.

• Although not entirely without emotion as often rumored, his affect is indeed low in the extreme, considering his violent lifestyle—hundreds of murders without expression or hesitation, enduring repeated torture without a sound, striking reflexively at individuals on the possibility they may pose a threat. The question, despite his "functionality," of extreme psychological disturbance seems entirely valid. His childhood would be of great interest in this matter, but in fact G13's origins represent another mystery for which he has killed to "protect." On the other hand, one analyst did remark that if the occasional loss of use in his right hand is the worst physical consequence of his lifestyle, it represents mental strength rather than weakness, for a normal individual would have committed suicide or required institutionalization long before.

(12.) Guillain-Barré syndrome is a disorder where the patient's own immune functions, for an unknown reason, attack the peripheral nervous system; the symptoms often intensifying to the life-threatening paralysis of all muscles. Its cause and cure are unknown, but its onset is temporary and surviveable with supportive care.